

# THE NATIONAL Wool Grower

VOLUME XXXV

MAY, 1945

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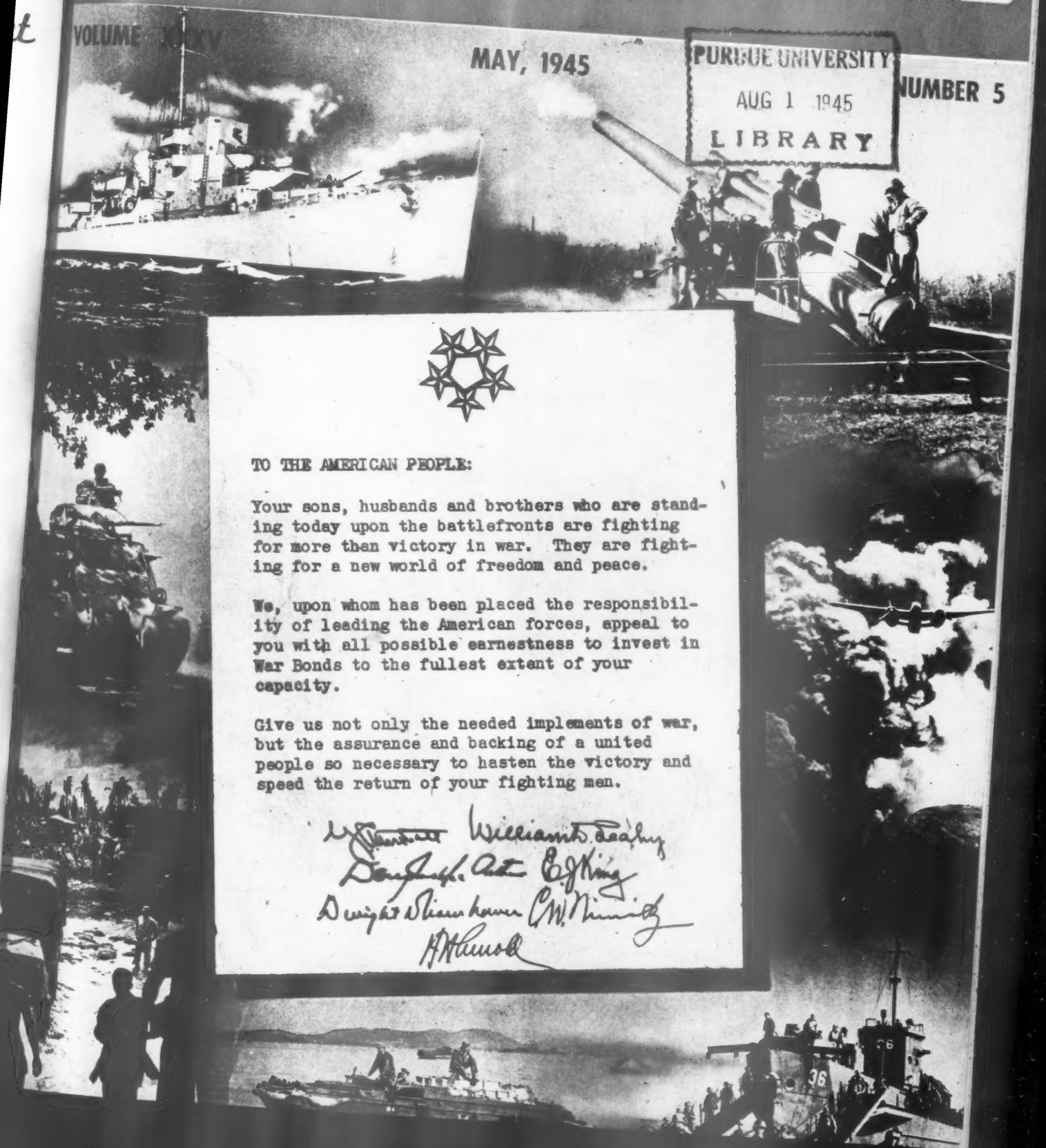
## TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE:

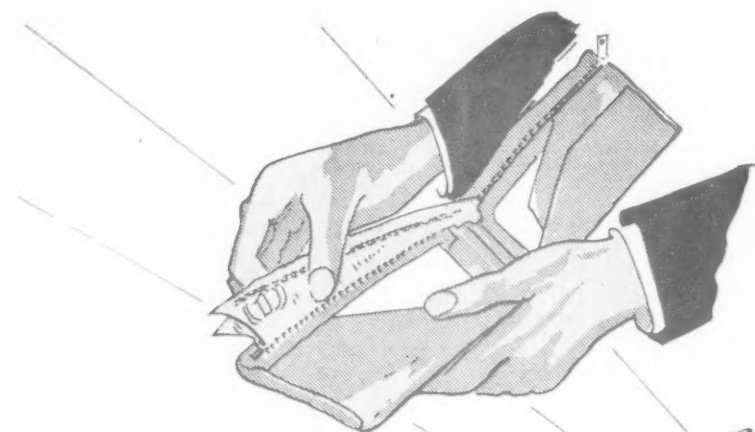
Your sons, husbands and brothers who are standing today upon the battlefronts are fighting for more than victory in war. They are fighting for a new world of freedom and peace.

We, upon whom has been placed the responsibility of leading the American forces, appeal to you with all possible earnestness to invest in War Bonds to the fullest extent of your capacity.

Give us not only the needed implements of war, but the assurance and backing of a united people so necessary to hasten the victory and speed the return of your fighting men.

*Wm. L. Williams, Sec'y  
Douglas C. E. King  
Dwight D. Eisenhower, C.M. Munnich  
H. H. Arnold*





# HOW MUCH DO OUR CUSTOMERS PAY FOR MARKETING WHEN THEY ship em to **DENVER?**

**LESS** than the selling cost of any other agricultural commodity.

Livestock selling costs bear a very low percentage relationship to its value. Even though values have increased there has been no appreciable change in ALL marketing costs AT DENVER—That means money in your pocketbook.

## SELLING CHARGES BY COMMISSION FIRMS

### ● RAILROAD ARRIVALS

CATTLE & CALVES (S.D. CAR)	\$17.50	SHEEP (S.D. CAR)	\$10.00	HOGS (SEE TRUCK)
" " " (D.D. CAR)	21.00	" (D.D. CAR)	15.50	

### ● TRUCK ARRIVALS

	Per Head	Per Head
CALVES: .....1 head \$ .50; 2 head to 20 head, inc.	\$ .35; each head over 20	\$ .25
YEARLINGS: ..... " " .70; " " " " " "	.55; " " " " " "	.45
CATTLE: ..... " " 1.00; " " " " " "	.80; " " " " " "	.70
HOGS—Irrrespective of mode of arrival		
1 head \$ .50; 2 head to 40 head, inc. \$ .30 per head; each head over 40 \$ .10 per head		
SHEEP: 1 head \$ .35	For the first 10 head in each 300 head.....	\$ .25
	For the next 50 head in each 300 head.....	.15
	For the next 60 head in each 300 head.....	.05
	For the next 130 head in each 300 head.....	.02
	For the next 50 head in each 300 head.....	.01

## YARDAGE CHARGES

	Rail	Truck
CATTLE .....	\$ .33	\$ .38
CALVES .....	.23	.28
HOGS .....	.12	.14
SHEEP .....	.08	.10



## FEED CHARGES

Current market prices on all feeds  
plus margins limited by the U. S.  
Dept. of Agriculture.

# THE DENVER UNION STOCK YARD COMPANY



**You Won't Realize Any  
Return For Your Year's  
Work Until Your Lambs  
Are Sold! . . .**

Why Not Ship Your Next Consignment To The  
SIOUX CITY Stock Yards Where Expert Salesmen  
Display & Offer Your Livestock To Buyers From  
All Over The Nation?

## THE SIOUX CITY STOCK YARDS



**SIOUX CITY-- HOME MARKET FOR THE GREAT NORTHWEST**

## MORE MEAT NEEDED



While it is a fact that the current meat supply exceeds the amount regarded as normal in many pre-war years, nevertheless consumers are complaining about a shortage. There are two principal reasons for this shortage.

The first reason is that the Government buys approximately one-half of the output of meat packers engaged in interstate commerce, and only what the Government does not need can

be put into the usual consumer channels.

The second reason is that with nearly all the nation's workers employed at war wages, there is such a great demand for meat that the normal peacetime supply, if it were available, would fall far short of requirements.

Thus there is a more-than-usual demand for a less-than-usual supply—and we have what appears to be a great shortage.

The current situation shows

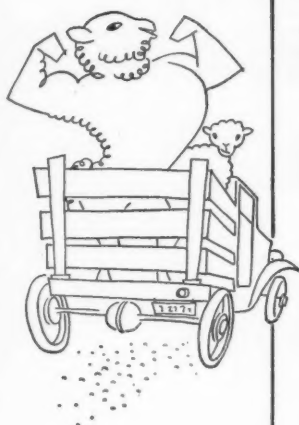
the close relationship between national income and meat demand. If, as is hoped, national income is kept near its present level after the war ends, opportunity will exist to produce and market with fair chance of profit, both for stock-growers and processors, substantially more meat than was produced before the war.

*Al. Bastard*

President

**ARMOUR and Company**

# Dow Phenothiazine



## sends sturdier stock to market

To help your animals stay vigorous and healthy, gain and hold weight, net you bigger returns . . . keep parasites under control with Dow Phenothiazine. In a few short years Phenothiazine has built up a remarkable reputation for removing stomach and nodular worms in cattle, sheep and goats, strongyles in horses, nodular worms in swine, and ceal worms in poultry.

Dow Phenothiazine is in regular use today by many farmers throughout the country. In drench, powder, or bolus form, it is incorporated in a number of well known stock and poultry remedies. Your regular dealer can tell you about them. Ask him, too, or write to us direct, for Dow's new booklet giving the facts on Phenothiazine—it's free!

### HOW TO USE PHENOTHIAZINE

Phenothiazine may be given in individual dosage in boluses, pellets, drench, or mixed with feed. For group treatment, mix Phenothiazine with feed or salt. Proprietary products should be given in accordance with manufacturer's directions or under supervision of a veterinarian. Weak or sick animals should be treated only under veterinarian's advice.



**SHEEP AND GOATS:**  
Adults, 25 grams. Goats and lambs of less than 60 lb. weight, 15 grams.



**CATTLE:**  
25 grams per 200 lb. weight, to a maximum of 60 grams. Not more than 40 grams for calves. Weak or young animals should receive partial doses over a period of several weeks.



**HOGS:**  
Up to 50 lb. weight—5 grams.  
50-100 lb. weight—10 grams.  
100-250 lb. weight—25 grams.



**POULTRY:**  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  gram per chicken over 2 lbs. If given with feed, mix  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. with enough mash for 250 birds to eat in an hour.



### THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY MIDLAND, MICHIGAN

New York • Boston • Philadelphia • Washington  
Cleveland • Detroit • Chicago • St. Louis  
Houston • San Francisco • Los Angeles • Seattle

## The Cutting Chute

### THE COVER

This month's cover calls your attention to the fact that the 7th War Loan Drive is on. The gentlemen who signed the letter reproduced thereon have done a "swell" job, and everyone on the home front will continue to back them and the boys up with the largest possible purchase of bonds.

### Colorado President Seriously Injured

President J. S. Hofmann of the Colorado Wool Growers Association was seriously hurt on April 19 at his ranch in Montrose. While adjusting a Tumblebug plow back of the tractor, he was in some way caught and received a bad skull fracture. Flown to the St. Joseph Hospital at Denver, Mr. Hofmann was operated on by Dr. Hyndman, noted brain specialist.

The latest report of Mr. Hofmann's condition (April 27) indicated that he was progressing in better fashion than anyone dared hope for and that unless some unlooked-for complications developed, his recovery would be complete and permanent. That, of course, is the ardent wish of Mr. Hofmann's many friends throughout the sheep country.

### Alexander Johnston Resigns

Alexander Johnston resigned as chief of the Wool Division, Livestock and Meats Branch, War Food Administration, on April 15, because eastern climatic conditions are proving injurious to his health. It will be recalled that he was associated with the Department of Agriculture several years ago, but was forced to give up the work in Washington, D. C., at that time for a similar reason. He plans to resume teaching at the University of Wyoming.

Since Mr. Johnston became chief of the Wool Division of the War Food Administration, long steps forward have been taken in connection with the determination of shrinkages in individual clips of wool through the use of the coring machine. This year that method is being used where requests are made for reappraisals on wool purchased by the Commodity Credit Corporation. After the war ends and manpower and equipment difficulties are overcome, the hope is that this method of shrinkage determination, which gives the grower a better understanding of the value of his clip, may be put into general use.

Wool growers, through attendance at association meetings and through reading the National Wool Grower, recognize the accuracy and reliability of Mr. Johnston's work. While they regret the necessity for his leaving his government position, they know that wherever he is, his work will be of great value to the wool industry.

### Farm Machinery and Repair Parts

The impossibility of meeting farm production goals unless a more adequate supply of repair parts and machinery is made available was put before J. A. Krug, chairman of the War Production Board, by agricultural groups on April 4 in hard cold facts.

The National Wool Grower



Mr. Krug promised that methods of distributing repair parts to farmers would be studied immediately to make sure that there were no bottlenecks in the procedure, and gave assurance that plans were already made to insure rapidly increasing production of farm machinery after V-E Day. While the allotment of controlled material for repair parts has not been reduced, that for the production of new farm machinery in the second quarter of 1945 has been cut 23 per cent below the first quarter, and production for the entire year will probably be the lowest up to the present time during the war period.

Many farmers have been hesitant about planting crops because of this fact and the short labor supply. It was suggested to Mr. Krug that farmers' rating be increased to give them an equal footing with other industries and the army in getting repair parts and new machinery. No action, apparently, has been taken on this suggestion. However, distributors of farm machinery repair parts, under a ruling made by the W.P.B. on April 23, are allowed an AA-2 preference rating for the purchase of such items. This gives them the same rating that manufacturers of these parts have had in securing material for their production.

#### Surplus Property Agencies

Regulation No. 1 issued by the Surplus Property Board designates the agencies which will handle the disposal of surplus property. Agricultural and forest lands will be handled by the Farm Credit Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture; grazing and mineral lands, by the Department of the Interior; consumer goods, including autos and farm machinery, by the Commerce Department; and food and agricultural commodities, by the War Food Administration. Other agencies will handle other surplus property.

In the purchase of agricultural and forest lands no longer needed for war purposes, the Surplus Property Act gives first preference to federal, state, county, municipal agencies, and certain types of institutions; and next preference to former owners, then former tenants if the land was rented at the time of government purchase. After all these preferences are exercised, the land then remaining is to be divided into economic units and offered first to veterans of the present war or persons now in military service, and second to the general public.

#### Producers On O.P.A. Advisory Committee

President G. Norman Winder of the National Wool Growers Association, Harry W. Farr of Greeley, Colorado, and H. J. King of Laramie, Wyoming, have been appointed members of the national advisory committee representing lamb producers in the Office of Price Administration. The entire committee is composed of 13 members.

The O.P.A. in making this announcement says, "The Committee will advise O.P.A. on the control of lamb prices. If it becomes necessary to establish ceiling prices for live lambs and sheep, the national advisory committee of 13 members will be available for consultation on economic factors and marketing practices that should be considered in drafting such a regulation."

# WANTED

**\$93,000,000** worth of

## RAILROAD

## TIES

This is an urgent call for help from American farms.

The railroads need crossties — millions of them this year.

Various kinds of wood can be used for crossties. They bring good prices. Do you have some right in your wood lot?

There's no single source big enough to meet all this demand. But if every farmer cuts and sells some of his timber — even a few dozen trees — it will add up to relieve a critical situation.

That's why we publish this appeal. You can make good money, and help the war effort, by cutting crossties *now*. See your nearest railroad agent.



**AMERICAN RAILROADS**

**ALL UNITED FOR VICTORY**

## NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION

### President

G. N. Winder, Craig, Colorado

### Honorary Presidents

F. A. Ellenwood, Red Bluff, California  
R. C. Rich, Burley, Idaho  
C. B. Wardlaw, Del Rio, Texas  
T. J. Drumheller, Walla Walla, Washington

### Vice Presidents

Mac Hoke, Pendleton, Oregon  
Sylvan J. Pauly, Deer Lodge, Montana  
T. C. Bacon, Twin Falls, Idaho  
Harry J. Devereaux, Rapid City, South Dakota  
Ray W. Willoughby, San Angelo, Texas

### Secretary-Treasurer

J. M. Jones, Salt Lake City, Utah

### Assistant Secretary

Edwin E. Marsh, Salt Lake City, Utah

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J. L. Sawyer, Oakdale, California  
J. S. Hofmann, Montrose, Colorado  
T. H. Gooding, Ketchum, Idaho  
Carl O. Hansen, Helena, Montana  
A. W. Bowman, Montello, Nevada  
Floyd W. Lee, San Mateo, New Mexico  
Wayne C. Stewart, Dayville, Oregon  
John Widdow, St. Onge, South Dakota  
Vestel Askew, San Angelo, Texas  
Don Clyde, Heber, Utah  
A. E. Lawson, Yakima, Washington  
J. B. Wilson, McKinley, Wyoming

### Affiliated Organizations

#### Arizona Wool Growers Association

14 East Jefferson St., Phoenix  
Robert W. Lockett, President  
H. B. Embach, Secretary

#### California Wool Growers Association

595 Mission Street, San Francisco  
James L. Sawyer, President  
W. P. Wing, Secretary

#### Colorado Wool Growers Association

415 Chamber of Commerce Building, Denver  
J. S. Hofmann, President  
A. C. Allen, Secretary

#### Idaho Wool Growers Association

Broadbent Building, Boise  
T. H. Gooding, President  
M. C. Claar, Secretary

#### Montana Wool Growers Association

Helena  
Wallace Kingsbury, President  
C. O. Hansen, Secretary

#### Nevada Wool Growers Association

404 Henderson Bank Bldg., Elko, Nevada  
Gordon Griswold, President  
Mrs. Martha R. Bruce, Secretary

#### New Mexico Wool Growers Association

Box 421, Albuquerque  
Floyd W. Lee, President  
Miss Isabel Benson, Secretary

#### Oregon Wool Growers Association

Pendleton  
Wayne C. Stewart, President  
W. A. Holt, Secretary

#### Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association

St. Angelus Hotel Bldg., San Angelo  
Ray W. Willoughby, President  
Vestel Askew, Secretary

#### Utah Wool Growers Association

408 Beneficial Life Bldg., Salt Lake City  
Don Clyde, President  
J. A. Hooper, Secretary

#### Washington Wool Growers Association

16 South First Street, Yakima  
T. J. Drumheller, President  
A. E. Lawson, Secretary

#### Western South Dakota Sheep Growers Association

Rapid City  
John Widdow, President  
H. J. Devereaux, Secretary

#### Wyoming Wool Growers Association

McKinley  
John A. Reed, President  
J. B. Wilson, Secretary

## Importation of Purebred Sheep

Importations totaling 3,003 head of purebred sheep were made into the United States during 1944 from New Zealand and Canada. The total was largely made up of Suffolks (2,057) and Southdowns (388), according to certificates of entry issued by the United States Department of Agriculture.

## Texas Wool and Mohair Contest

To develop and promote knowledge of sheep and wool, goats and mohair production, the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association is sponsoring a contest for 4-H Club boys in connection with the annual West Texas Wool and Mohair Show at Sonora on June 21. The awards will be all-paid expense trips to the Chicago International Livestock Exposition.

## Farm Land Prices

A study made by the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association indicates that land prices over the country, as of March 1, 1945, had risen to 126 per cent of the 1912-14 average, based at 100. While for the country as a whole the 1920 boom peak has not been reached, in some areas it has been exceeded, namely, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, and California. In Oregon it has been equaled.

For the mountain area, farm real estate prices this year are 120 per cent of the 1912-14 average, while in 1920 they were 151 per cent. In the Pacific States they are 171 per cent of the base average, compared with 156 per cent in the peak year 1920.

## Prominent Stockman, O.P.A. Regional Agricultural Advisor

Prager Miller, who was president of the New Mexico Wool Growers Association for a number of years prior to 1923 and also a member of the executive committee of the National Wool Growers Association, has been appointed regional agricultural advisor of the Office of Price Administration, with offices at 426 Kittredge Building, Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Miller takes the position left vacant by the resignation of Wilmer J. McMillin.

## Farm Gasoline

Farmers wishing gasoline to operate tractors or other farm machinery and equipment should apply this season, as last, to the War Price and Rationing Board for off-highway rations.

The amount of gasoline needed for the next six months should be estimated by the farmer. The amounts approved by the board are then issued in two installments of "E" and "R" coupons. The first installment amounts to 70 per cent of the total, the remaining 30 per cent being issued when needed.

This year, however, farmers and other users of off-highway gasoline will be asked to keep a delivery record on which the supplier will enter all gasoline purchases made with "E" and "R" coupons. Forms for keeping these delivery records are being issued after May 1 by the boards to non-highway users with their ration coupons.

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VOL. XXXV

NUMBER 5

MAY, 1945

509 Pacific National Life Building  
Salt Lake City 1, Utah

J. M. Jones  
Irene Young } Editors

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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members \$5.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.

The National Wool Grower

# In Washington

## Food Investigations

There have been so many hearings and investigations held recently in and out of Washington that it has been difficult to follow them.

Among those affecting our industry has been the food (and particularly meat) investigation carried on by the Senate Agricultural Committee under the chairmanship of Senator Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma. The livestock producers' representatives appeared before the committee on April 23. Your representatives covered the present condition of the sheep industry, including both wool and lambs.

This Senate Committee is attempting to develop the facts surrounding the black market in meat in the eastern cities and particularly the city of Washington.

The general opinion here seems to be that the black market is brought about by unscrupulous men engaged in the meat trade. It does not seem to occur to many that the root of this present evil started with the Office of Price Administration regulations over two years ago. The effects of these regulations that have killed production are just now being felt in Washington, and many are quite disturbed. The truth is, of course, that the sheep and allied industries must be permitted to meet costs of production. The greatest cure for black market ills is increased production.

Mayor LaGuardia of New York City testified before the committee on April 24. It was surprising and gratifying to learn that the Mayor is proposing remedies that conform exactly with ideas expressed by your representatives for the past 18 months: namely, placing of the control of food in the hands of one agency; replacing theorists with practical men in the agency in control; and urging a sufficient margin so that all segments of the meat industry can meet costs of operation. This was his solution for remedying the black market situation in New York.

It is certain the present chaotic condition cannot be remedied in one month or six months, but it is hoped that proper remedies will be insisted upon be-

fore the Stabilization Act is extended. It is not known when the House Banking and Currency Committee will hold hearings on the extension of O.P.A.

A special committee of the House to investigate the food situation under the chairmanship of Representative Anderson is working diligently at the present time. The committee has been traveling lately but is expected to return today. Your representatives expect to appear before it also.

This committee has not released any of its findings to date but many people here feel that it is doing a thorough job.

## Reciprocal Trade

Hearings of paramount interest to our industry started in the House Ways and Means Committee on April 18 when government officials were asked to testify in behalf of the extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act as amended; that is, to extend the Act for a period of 3 years and permit a further 50 per cent cut in duties.

Secretary of State Stettinius did not attend the hearings on account of the San Francisco conference. Assistant Secretary William L. Clayton presented the Secretary's and his own statements before the committee and was then questioned for almost two days concerning his ideas on the subject. Mr. Nelson Rockefeller, Assistant Secretary of State in charge of public relations with Latin American countries, testified for a full day before the committee.

Secretary of Commerce Henry Wallace appeared before the committee on two days and Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard testified April 25 and 26 in behalf of the extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act as now proposed. The latter met with a great deal of opposition from the minority members of the House Ways and Means Committee and, in my opinion, did not stand up too well. Practically all the questioning of witnesses is being done by the Republican minority group, who have agreed unanimously to oppose the provision permitting a 50 per cent additional reduction in duties.

Mr. Ryder of the Tariff Commission

read his prepared statement this morning and will be questioned this afternoon relative to the position of that agency, which of course has heretofore been favorable to reciprocal trade agreements.

The completion of Mr. Ryder's testimony will finish the government witnesses and public witnesses will testify beginning tomorrow. It is now planned that Mr. Mollin of the American National will give his testimony on April 27, and we will follow on Monday, April 30.

People who have been through all of the fights on the reciprocal trade agreements say that this is the strongest one in opposition to them since 1934. It is impossible to prophesy the outcome of this battle at present but it may be possible to defeat the provision for further decrease in present duties.

## M-388

The Smith Committee handling the War Production Board Order M-388 is again holding hearings relative to the channeling of goods into lower-priced lines, because the newly proposed amendments are not entirely satisfactory or need clarification. The completion of these hearings is not in sight.

## Prices

Situations are developing very rapidly in Washington, particularly with the approach of V-E Day. The thing that seems most difficult is to get the O.P.A. to give any relief in the way of price concessions to the sheep industry.

It has been felt that processors of meat placed sufficient pressure on the O.P.A. to permit them to operate, but apparently the packers are not satisfied with the ten-point program suggested. (See page 22). They are here working again on the provisions of the new order. How much longer O.P.A. can feed the people regulations instead of permitting meat production is a question.

It is our hope to get some remedy which will put an end to the severe liquidation in the sheep business.

April 26, 1945.

J.M.J.



# Now Is the Time!

By S. W. McClure

**I**N 1934 the administration, through Secretary of State Hull, induced the Congress to pass a law known as the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act. This law gave the President authority to enter into treaties with foreign countries reducing tariff duties by any amount up to 50 per cent of the rate in existing law.

The Constitution gives the tariff-making authority strictly to the Congress and requires that all treaties must be ratified by two thirds of the Senate. However, the Congress set the Constitution aside and delegated the tariff-making authority to the President and annulled the requirement that the treaties had to be ratified by two-thirds of the Senate, by the subterfuge of calling these treaties "agreements."

This law has expired several times and has been renewed by the Congress. It expires again on June 12 and the administration is asking its renewal with the additional authority to reduce all duties 50 per cent from the rate existing on January 1, 1945. This would mean that a duty which had already been reduced 50 per cent could again be reduced by 50 per cent more, which would be a 75 per cent reduction from the rates of the Smoot-Hawley tariff. Under the authority contained in the present law, treaties had been entered into with 27 countries up to January 1, 1945, under which the duty on 1500 articles had been reduced an average of 40 per cent. I cannot vouch for the number of reductions or the rate, as that would be difficult to obtain. However, these figures have been given by what ought to be competent authority, and they are approximately correct.

When hearings were being held on the original passage of this law it was testified by administration officials that an emergency existed and that certain rates were out of line. Mr. Hull, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, and Assistant Secretary of State Sayre, all testified that no general tariff revision was contemplated and left that impression with Congress. Even President Roosevelt wrote Senator O'Mahoney that there would be no reduction in the wool rates. All these promises have been broken; rates have been reduced indiscriminately and, in very many cases,

by the full amount permitted in the law. Even the wool rates have been reduced by the full amount on coarse wools and by a further reduction on shoddy, rags, and certain wool wastes as well as on some fabrics. The duty on lambs has been reduced the full 50 per cent. Finer wools have escaped only because we have not as yet made a treaty with Australia. That country is next on the list and is asking for a reduction in the wool tariff.

The prices of our wool are now raised by the tariff from 10 cents to 16 cents per pound, depending on grade and condition. A 50 per cent reduction would cut our wool prices by half this amount when the ceiling is removed, but if imports were excessive we might lose the entire amount of tariff protection. No one knows how long ceilings may be maintained but we do know that at the end of the war Congress guarantees the wool grower just 90 per cent of parity. What parity will be is problematical but the base parity figure is 18 cents.

This proposal to reduce tariffs by 75 per cent would give the nation its lowest tariff since 1860 and would have the same effect as free trade. It would be followed by huge imports if we have the money to buy them and would in no way stimulate exports.

Following the close of World War I tremendous imports of wool, wheat, meat, butter, etc. flooded our markets, producing an acute and demoralizing panic. So serious was the situation that the President called a special session of Congress and passed an emergency tariff to shut out the flood. It required more than a full year to recover from this deluge.

As to the surplus stocks of agricultural and livestock products extant in the world, authentic information is lacking, or at least not given to the public. We do know, however, that of livestock products the stocks are very large, and my guess is that the same is true of farm products. Also we have set up at Bretton Woods a vast financial institution composed of the world's leading nations, and for which we furnish most of the real money to finance foreign countries and regulate

international exchange. This may become a huge import scheme.

The propaganda sent out to the country by low-tariff advocates keeps harping on the fact that we are a creditor nation and that foreigners can pay their debts only by sending us goods. This is absolutely false. Here are the facts.

In World War I, we lent-leased to foreign countries ten and one-half billion dollars. With interest this now amounts to a huge sum and will never be paid. In this war up to some time in March we have lent-leased to the world 37½ billion dollars. This could not be, and should not be paid. No one here expects it. We have agreed to lend-lease to France 2½ billion dollars and 5½ billion to Great Britain. Russia is asking for 6 billion but the deal is not completed. Lend-lease closes at the end of the war and by that time the world will owe us 50 billion dollars less 4 billion which we have received in reverse lend-lease. Therefore, we will have given the world through lend-lease a net of 45 billion dollars.

In spite of this fact we are actually in debt to the world in the sum of 6 billion dollars. That is—the world holds our short-term notes unpaid to the value of 6 billion dollars. This debt will probably be much increased before we withdraw from Europe.

We are therefore a debtor nation. Marriner Eccles, the other day, stated that foreign countries had credits in this country amounting to 10 billion dollars and their total credits with which to buy our goods amounted to 25 billion dollars. What we need to balance this situation is exports not imports.

I previously stated that the 45 billion dollars which the world owes us never can be or should never be paid, except the small part of it loaned to nations not actively engaged in the war. The reasons are:

First, these nations could not pay this debt except in goods, if they could pay at all, and we could not accept goods in this amount without destroying a large part of domestic industry and displacing millions of American workers.

Second, only Russia could pay by sending us gold bullion, but as we are not on the gold standard the gold would be useless. The purpose of lend-lease was to win the war and buy the favor of foreign nations. The first has been accomplished and the latter is not worth a damn. Our internal debt will soon



reach 300 billion dollars, or more than the debt of the entire world. To pay the interest on this we will need to develop every line of production possible.

We can do that only by protecting our markets and developing home trade, which accounts for 95 per cent of our total business. We have given foreigners our machinery, our technical experts, and money with which to rebuild. Under the Smoot-Hawley tariff 65 per cent of our total imports enter this country free of duty. When the war is over and trade has resumed its normal course, then will be the time to lower the tariff if it is found necessary.

## Feed In Transit

**W**ESTERN railroads in recent years have required that livestock in transit be fed double the minimum amount required under the 28-36 hour law in the absence of specific instructions from shippers.

Charles E. Blaine, traffic manager for the American National Livestock Association, and the National Wool Growers Association, has worked for the withdrawal of this requirement, contending that shippers were the best judge of the feed required by their stock, and that the minimum amount prescribed by the Department of Agriculture under the law should be fed unless the shipper asks for a large amount. This suggestion has just been adopted by the Southern Pacific Lines. In a letter to Mr. Blaine on April 23, 1945, H. C. Hallmark, Southern Pacific traffic manager, said:

Effective the same date, (May 1), tariffs are being amended to provide on Southern Pacific Lines in the absence of instructions from shipper to the contrary, amount of feed to be supplied and charged for will be the minimum specified by the Department of Agriculture. This latter change is one that you have been asking for for some time. Instructions have been issued to all concerned to watch this new provision and see that feed is furnished accordingly and that in the absence of instructions for different feeding, bills are rendered only for the minimum requirements.

If shippers using the Southern Pacific Lines do not feel that the minimum requirement is sufficient, they should instruct railroad agents as to the amount of feed to be given their stock.

Out of this recognition by the Southern Pacific Lines of the soundness of Mr. Blaine's position, it is hoped will come similar action by other western roads.

## Grazing Hearings Set

**T**HAT Director C. L. Forsling of the Grazing Service intends to make formal recommendation to Secretary Ickes of the Interior Department after July 1 that the fees for the use of the forage on Taylor Grazing Districts be increased, is now indicated. He has served notice on the Senate Public Lands Committee, it is reported, that their investigation and report on these fees should be made before that date.

Hearings to make this study have now been announced by the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys as follows:

**Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 10-11.**

**Phoenix, Arizona, May 14-15.**

**Ely, Nevada (Nevada Hotel), May 23-25.**

**Salt Lake City (Newhouse Hotel), May 28, 29, and 31.**

**Boise, Idaho, June 4-5.**

**Baker, Oregon, June 7-8.**

**Burns, Oregon, June 11-12.**

Stockmen in California, Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming will also have an opportunity to voice their objections to the increase and to any other features of the administration of these districts at times and places to be announced later.

The entire Committee on Public Lands and Surveys is dividing up to cover the public domain states as quickly as possible. Senator Carl Hatch (New Mexico), who is chairman of this committee, will conduct the Arizona and New Mexico hearings; Senator O'Mahoney (Wyoming) will handle those in Wyoming; Senator Taylor (Idaho) will take charge in Oregon; and Senator McCarran (Nevada) will chairman the hearings in Nevada, Utah, Idaho, and California. Senators Abe Hatch (Utah), John Thomas (Idaho), and Edward B. Robinson (Wyoming), and probably members of the House Committee on Public Lands, will attend the Ely and Salt Lake hearings.

### House Committee Recommends Increased Fees

How much more may be added to the expense burden of the sheep industry is questionable. The heavy liquidation because of insufficient income to meet high labor, feed, and other costs is con-

vincing evidence of a serious condition. However, the House Appropriations Committee, severely criticizing the Grazing Service, refused to allow a million-dollar increase in its budget and, indeed, cut its funds \$74,000 below last year's appropriation and recommended "an adjustment of grazing fees to the end that the Grazing Service is self-supporting, as was originally intended." The Committee said:

The Committee is convinced that the Grazing Service has become so top-heavy that it is virtually impossible for it to function appropriately as was originally planned.

The Committee further believes that the mushroom growth of the Grazing Service is largely responsible for its failure to function properly and for its lack of success in producing sufficient revenues to maintain itself.

It finds that the Service is headed by a director's office, with 10 regional offices and 60 grazing districts with 57 administrative units. This overgrown organization is highly impractical and unbusinesslike.

It recommends the elimination of many of the suboffices and other duplicating activities.

The fees collected of 1 cent per month for sheep and 5 cents per month for cattle, in most areas, seem to be entirely out of line.

The House Committee's recommendation that the fees should be increased was not concurred in by the Senate Appropriations Committee. Some of the Senators believe no increases should be made until price ceilings on livestock are removed.

### The Director's Statement

Director Forsling's position, as given to the House Appropriations Committee, is quoted by Harry J. Brown of the Salt Lake Tribune's Washington bureau on April 28 as follows:

A great many of the growers appear to feel that the fee should not be raised at this time. On the other hand, it is my feeling that in view of the fact that they are now deriving a great many of the benefits of the administration of the grazing district and have greater security in its use and the advantage of a great many improvements that have been put on the range at public expense, and also in view of the fact that the prices received for beef and lambs have increased about 70 per cent since the average for 1935-39, there is, in my opinion, ample justification for an increase in the fees.

The Act directs the department to charge a reasonable fee. The original fee of 5 cents looked reasonable to me when it was established because at that time the livestock industry was in the throes of a depression, the administration of the Taylor Act was just getting under way, and we had just been through a long drought.

But since then conditions have changed

materially, although the stockmen tell us that the costs of production also have increased since that time; labor is very hard to get, and they are being charged twice as much for labor as they were. Costs of purchased feed and other supplies have also increased.

Another reason why I think the fees should be increased is because, compared with similar lands in private and state ownership, the rate paid for the federal ranges is much smaller. They pay on private lands, or railroad lands, or state lands, all the way from three to ten times as much.

We have had a number of letters and statements from individuals who are not entitled to use the range to the effect that they would pay several times as much for the privilege to use the range as we are now receiving for range lands if we would allot it to them.

Some statements have been made to the effect that an increase in fees now would interfere with the production of meat while the war is going on, but I feel sure that for every animal that would be taken off the range because of an increase in the fee, there are several more animals in the ownership of somebody else waiting to go in and take the place of those removed.

I am in favor of an increase. As soon as the committee of the Senate has completed its investigation, and I have the benefit of information gathered by them, I expect to make a recommendation to the Secretary of the Interior for such action as he desires to take.

Director Forsling is reported as telling the Committee that he believes that the livestock industry has been prosperous for the last several years, except that in 1944 a lot of sheepmen did not make as much money as they had in the immediately preceding years. The Grazing Service office, he told the committee, is getting additional information on 1944 costs of production figures from credit agencies.

While the grazing fee question will be the dominant one undoubtedly at all the public land hearings, other questions will also come up. At Ely the extension of grazing district areas will be discussed, and in Salt Lake City the first day of the hearing, May 28, will probably be taken up with the withdrawals of land in Eastern Utah. As usual, all of these hearings will be conducted in an informal manner and will permit very frank discussion. Sheep and cattle men should attend wherever possible and give the Senate Committee facts to support the claim that grazing fees should not be increased, and make known any other grievance they may have in connection with the administration of the Taylor Grazing Districts.

## April Meetings In Wyoming

THREE groups of Wyoming sheepmen met to discuss their problems during the first part of April. The Carbon County Wool Growers met in Rawlins, April 2; growers from Sweetwater County met in Rock Springs on April 3; and the Lincoln County Wool Growers had their annual meeting at Cokeville on April 4. Attendance at the Rock Springs and Cokeville meetings was good but a blizzard in the Rawlins district marooned some growers on their home ranches and prevented their attendance.

Speakers at all three meetings included J. B. Wilson, secretary of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association, who discussed current activities in Washington where he has been spending the major portion of his time looking after the interests of the sheepmen, whose problems at this time are particularly numerous and pressing; E. E. Marsh, assistant secretary, National Wool Growers Association, who spoke on activities of the association and presented the new membership-agreement plan, which met with considerable success; Clarence L. Forsling, chief of the Grazing Service, who spoke on various grazing matters, chiefly the proposal of the Grazing Service to triple present fees on the public domain; and E. S. Haskell, special investigator for Senator McCarran's Public Lands Committee. Mr. Forsling's talk was followed by considerable discussion. Many growers expressed the opinion that no increase was justifiable and others stated they felt, in view of all circumstances involved, that proposals of any changes in fees should be postponed for the duration of the war. Growers were also unanimous in urging continuance of the McCarran Public Lands Committee.

### SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

**May 14-15: California Ram Sale, Sacramento County Fair Grounds, Galt, California.**

**June 4-5: Intermountain Junior Fat Stock Show, North Salt Lake, Utah.**

**August 21-22: National Ram Sale, North Salt Lake, Utah.**

**December 1-5: Great Western Livestock Show, Los Angeles.**

Forestry officials and representatives of the Fish and Wildlife Service were also present at the meetings and there was considerable discussion on forestry matters as well as predatory animal control.

Informal meetings of this kind are not only interesting, but are of value to all in attendance, as they permit fullest freedom in discussion and result in a more complete understanding of new developments in the industry and what may be done to solve current pressing problems.

## House Committee Reports

### Holds Government Policies Responsible for Food Shortage

THE meat shortage and the black markets were laid to government policies in the report made on May 2 by the House Committee, headed by Representative Anderson of New Mexico, which has been investigating the food crisis for several weeks past.

Criticizing sharply the 10-point relief program announced by the O.P.A., the W.F.A., and the Office of Economic Stabilization, the House Committee, in its 7,000-word report, recommended 5 steps to correct the present evils:

1. A subsidy for cattle feeders to put more weight on beef for market.
2. A boost in the hog support price to \$13.50 per hundredweight.
3. A coordinated food program all the way from producer to consumer, linking production quotas, prices, distribution and rationing in one set-up.
4. A top priority for food production, with arrangements for adequate farm machinery and manpower, and an increase of storage facilities so that surpluses can be stockpiled against future shortages.
5. Separate ration points for meat and rigid black market controls at the source.

Recommendations were also made by the Committee to forestall threatened shortages in poultry, eggs, and sugar. The Committee has also scheduled special investigations on the eggs and sugar situation.

The committee further said:

The committee feels the time to deal with shortages is before the black market has developed, and when there may still be time to remedy the shortages by incentives or by a more aggressive program of production to secure more abundant supply, which in the last analysis is the strongest weapon against black market operators and inflation.

# More About Australia

By J. F. Wilson, University of California

MY recent trip to New Zealand was made for the purpose of buying stud sheep for the University of California and for private breeders on the West Coast. The 40 Merino ewes and three rams bought for the University were paid for with funds derived from W. K. Kellogg who advertises Corn Flakes. My ticket was bought by a generous wool grower who also got 25 Merino ewes and two rams. I mention these facts to nip in the bud any criticism from California taxpayers who otherwise might wonder why their big University sends its professors on 20,000-mile jaunts abroad. I do not eat Corn Flakes but I hope you do and that you will encourage your whole family to eat lots of them. Some day I want to go to South Africa.

The reason for going to New Zealand after Merinos instead of getting better ones from Australia is very simple. Australia has had for about 15 years an embargo against the export of Merino sheep to any country in the world except one—New Zealand. As a further protection the New Zealanders who purchase Merinos in Australia are not allowed to re-export the same sheep. There are about 40 stud flocks of Merinos in the Dominion, all of them in the South Island and all confined to a narrow strip of country. Of these the majority have some infusion of South Australian "strong wool" Merino blood but less than half of them are heavily infused with this blood and only half a dozen are of pure South Australian breeding. Records on sheep of pure South Australian breeding imported into the United States four years ago and kept under range conditions in California show that they are about 50 per cent more efficient in wool production alone than any other of several pure strains running in the same pastures with them. In conformation and in size they do not compare very favorably with the improved type of smooth Rambouillet. We are going to attempt to transfer the fleece of the New Zealand Merino to the body of American Rambouillets. Our experiment will involve two of what geneticists call "back cross" lines, one selected for fleece

only, the other for conformation and size. At the end of seven generations we hope to combine the two lines and produce a sheep with a Rambouillet body and a New Zealand fleece. Fortunately it will take about 15 years to run the experiment and I shall retire in 13 years. If it doesn't succeed all the blame will be hurled at the head of my successor; if successful it will be due in large measure to the foresight and perspicacity of good old Wilson, who will emerge from retirement just in time to grab the credit. Safety first propaganda has not been wasted on me.

It is quite a job to get from here to New Zealand in times like these. It was necessary to take a ship going to Australia and then transfer. I had only a week there before hurrying on to New Zealand in a flying boat over the Tasman Sea.

Australians complain a good deal about Uncle Sam's high tariff on wool. They are free traders when it comes to selling wool to the United States. When I got off the boat, however, with a wool necktie for one of my friends, a pair of rayon hose for his wife, and a handful of cheap little American novelties, the customs officers in Sydney charged me a duty so stiff it could stand up alone. Our tariff on wool may be high but at least it isn't a complete embargo such as they impose on us in regard to Merino sheep. Any Aussie can come to the U.S.A., buy anything he wants and take it home. Australians have bought some of the best beef and dairy cattle blood in the Commonwealth from American breeders, and judging by what I saw down there four years ago, they might do well to keep on buying good cattle. But when it comes to selling us a few Merino sheep they slam the door shut. All they leave open is the key hole—you can still take a peek.

My opinion of the embargo against the export of Merinos does not mean that I do not like Australians. On the contrary the Aussies I have met are as fine a crowd as one would find anywhere. Most of those I have met are sheepmen and are therefore gentlemen.

Australians are very much exercised over the postwar position of wool. The

statistics on world production of artificial fibers cause the Australian wool grower a great deal more worry than has yet been shown by American growers. The fact that world production of rayon staple fiber, a direct competitor of wool, increased from 53.5 million pounds to 1,350 million pounds in the seven years before the United States went to war is of deep concern to them. The advent of nylon, of casein fibers from skim milk and fibers from soybean and other proteins is a further aggravation. Australia has millions of acres adaptable only to sheep raising, just as we have in the eleven western states, and such land will either grow sheep and wool at a profit or lie idle. But unlike ourselves, Australians are attacking the problem with vigor and determination. While we are increasing our budget for the American Wool Council to \$50,000 a year to popularize wool, they are going to raise \$2,000,000 a year for the same purpose. We make a plea for growers to contribute 10 cents a bag and some do. Australian growers are going to levy an assessment of two shillings, or about 35 cents a bale and every grower will have the amount deducted from his returns. The money is to be used for scientific research, economic research, and advertising—in short it will cover every phase of the wool business from growing the fleece to wearing the finished article. The program is already under way.

Australia has been criticized by some for not having conscription for her armed forces, yet the record shows that her volunteers constitute nearly as great a proportion of her population as our own conscripted forces. When it comes to a scrap the Aussies are not exactly a bunch of panty-waists either.

Shortages of goods and services in Australia are similar to our own, although they have been at war much longer than we have.

Australian wool imported into this country carries a customs duty or tariff of 34 cents per pound of clean content, yet it is being landed in the United States, duty paid, at prices less than those paid by our government for do-



mestic wool of similar grade. At present our American manufacturers show a preference for these foreign wools. Their preference is based largely on price, despite the statement made at the recent National convention in Ft. Worth that it is based on differences in preparation of the clip. The question is often asked how the Australian grower can sell his clip at such a low price and still make money. The answer is simple—his production costs are so low compared with ours. The average price paid to the Australian grower in 1944 was just under 15½ pence a pound. At current rates of exchange this means about 21 cents a pound in our money. They think this is a good price and most of them are satisfied. It makes no difference in any

country what the selling price of a commodity is, the question is always the selling price in relation to production costs and how much of goods and services can be bought with the difference. Many wool growers in this country can remember when they were much better off financially selling wool at 20 cents than they are now with wool at double that price or even more. It is related that George Washington threw a silver dollar clear across the Potomac River, but a dollar went a lot farther then than it does today.

This is the first of a series of articles by Dr. Wilson on his trip to Australia and New Zealand last fall. Part of the material contained in them was presented in an address before the Ft. Worth, Texas, meeting of the National Wool Growers Association, January 31, 1945.

## Peace Plans Deserve Support

By F. R. Marshall

**I**T is plain that 1945 is the time for people of good will and with a desire to make some contribution to the welfare of the race to do something.

I have in mind the international undertaking discussed and partially outlined at Bretton Woods, Dumbarton Oaks, Yalta, and to be continued at San Francisco. And I'm setting down some ideas—not mainly my own—that possibly may help to cause more people to be active and more vocal in building up the public opinion in support of the best possible plan that will result from the efforts of many men and women in many countries. If support of the plan that will be offered in the treaty to come before the United States Senate is strong enough and adequately expressed, there will be 64 votes in favor of giving this country its full part in creating a new era of peace and probably elimination of major wars.

Woodrow Wilson was recently quoted as having said: "No one man can make peace; it must come from the people." In President Wilson's time the people of this country were not nearly so much concerned about peace as they are today. Unfortunately the effort of 1919 was not nearly so well handled before the Senate as it is being managed now. The Senators and the public now have much fuller information than they were given in 1919 during the development of the world peace plan and machinery as later presented

for ratification as a treaty. The movement is developing without partisanship. Republicans are found among the most ardent and constructive advocates of a world peace plan. If the maturing of the plan at San Francisco and elsewhere and its presentation to the public shall continue to be as careful and as wise as it has been since the Bretton Woods conference, it is unlikely that 33 Senators will be found to vote against the resulting treaty that will be submitted. I venture to predict that Senator Hiram Johnson will cast a favorable vote.

**Although the situation looks very favorable now there is yet much to be done, both in drafting the plan and in developing opinion to ensure its adoption. Optimism should not make us careless or inactive. Every interested citizen should aid in developing sentiment for approval and in securing public expression of approval to the end that Senators can have no doubt as to the wishes of the people in their states. Many of us who, through modesty or indifference, have been doing less than our duty as citizens of a democracy can now retrieve our position and clear our consciences by joining up with others in studying the Peace Plan, supporting it in conversations, and securing expressions of groups in a way to leave no doubt in the minds of Senators as to what the people at home are thinking.**

Perhaps some will say: "Oh that's politics." Not at all. It's Democracy. But at this point it is not amiss to say that politics and politicians are too often condemned and shunned by good people who overlook the fact that a democracy depends upon the informed and expressed opinion of citizens and their active interest in the election of officials to represent them in legislative bodies. Those who decry politics will err if they put this peace question in the category of what they conceive to be politics.

There is honest criticism of the requirement of the Constitution that international agreements must be approved by two thirds of the members of the Senate. There are two sides to that question. Without stopping now to argue the point it may be suggested that the votes of 64 United States Senators for approval of the creation and operation of the United Nations Security Council will show that the American people want action to ensure future peace. Endorsement by the Senate will be stronger evidence of popular opinion than will similar action by governments that require only majority votes of their legislative bodies. A unanimous vote of our Senate to approve the treaty would be marvelous evidence to the world that the United States really wants and expects, and will sacrifice for, a future without war.

It would be too much to expect that the treaty, as it will be advanced at San Francisco and later given final form for submission to the Senate, will be ratified without extended debate and sincere criticism. That would also be undesirable. The Poles and their friends are loud in their criticism of the Yalta proposals of territorial concessions to Russia. Others object that Russia had things too much her own way. There must be agreement on some basis if there is to be any international undertaking to preserve peace, and some compromises may be necessary and not undesirable. In connection with the two points mentioned it can be argued that justice is being done. But if it should later appear that there was injustice, we can understand that the final terms of the charters of the Council and the Assembly will provide methods of reversing or amending earlier acts which time has shown to have been inequitable. And we can rely on the fact that no question is ever finally settled until it is settled fairly.

(Continued on page 36)



# Sheep Liquidation: Its Causes and Cure

The food situation, particularly low meat supplies, has been the subject of congressional hearings for several weeks now. On April 23 Secretary J. M. Jones made the statement which follows to the Senate Food Committee, which is headed by Senator Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma.

In presenting the serious situation in the sheep industry today, Secretary Jones used a series of charts, also shown here, which were prepared by E. E. Marsh that illustrate graphically the causes of the heavy liquidation in sheep numbers during the past two years.

## A Review from 1940 to Date

PRIOR to the active participation of our country in World War II, our government urged the sheep industry of the United States to produce to the limit both meat and fiber.

The desired results were obtained. The sheep population in the United States increased over 3 million head from January 1, 1940 to January 1, 1942, or an increase of over 7 per cent in the two-year period in addition to supplying of both meat and fiber in record amounts. In the twelve western states and Texas a greater percentage of increase took place than in the United States as a whole.

However, sheep numbers began to decline in 1942, with the need for meat and fiber at record heights, until by January 1, 1945, the Department of Agriculture reported a decline of 16 per cent in the twelve western states and Texas and a loss of 17 per cent in the United States since January 1, 1942.

I would like to call your attention to a picture which shows that this reduction in sheep numbers is taking place at least as rapidly as the Department of Agriculture reports. This graph shows the number of sheep slaughtered under federal inspection for the years 1923 through 1944, inclusive. These figures are from the statistics prepared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

It will be noted that in that year (1923) 1,515,000 head of sheep were slaughtered with a considerable decrease in the slaughter from that pe-

riod, and a low point being reached in 1932 when only 686,000 head were slaughtered under federal inspection.

During the drought years, 1934 and 1935, slaughter was at a peak and in 1936 the greatest number on record was slaughtered (1,569,000 head). Then, of course, numbers began to build up again as indicated by the decrease in slaughter and in 1940 the slaughter was 1,145,000 head, which was the average slaughter for the 1923-1940 period.

Following that date, however, a tremendous increase in slaughter began to take place during a time when increased production of meat and fiber was needed. Of course, the slaughter of sheep gave meat for the present but provided no increase for the future. Nineteen-forty-three was a record year for slaughter, totals reaching over 4,897,000 head or an increase of 346 per cent since 1940. Slaughter in 1944 was reduced over a million head. There were 3,613,000 head slaughtered during that year, which amounted to a 229 per cent increase over the 1940 period. This increase in slaughter is a decrease in the breeding stock.

There is no doubt that liquidation is continuing at a rapid rate and I am sure that you will see the reason for this liquidation as this picture is given to you.

The Department of Agriculture, in my opinion, has been too conservative in indicating this unprecedented liquidation in sheep numbers. Another 8 per cent decrease should have been shown as of January 1, 1945. Instead of 29,335,000 head of stock sheep and lambs on farms in the 12 western states and Texas, 26,856,000 head would have given more nearly a correct picture. For the United States as a whole, the figure should be 37,824,000 head instead of 41,315,000 and the decrease in United States sheep numbers from a peak of 49,807,000 head in 1942 to 37,824,000 head, a 24 per cent one. I believe the wool purchase figures of the Commodity Credit Corporation will bear out this position.

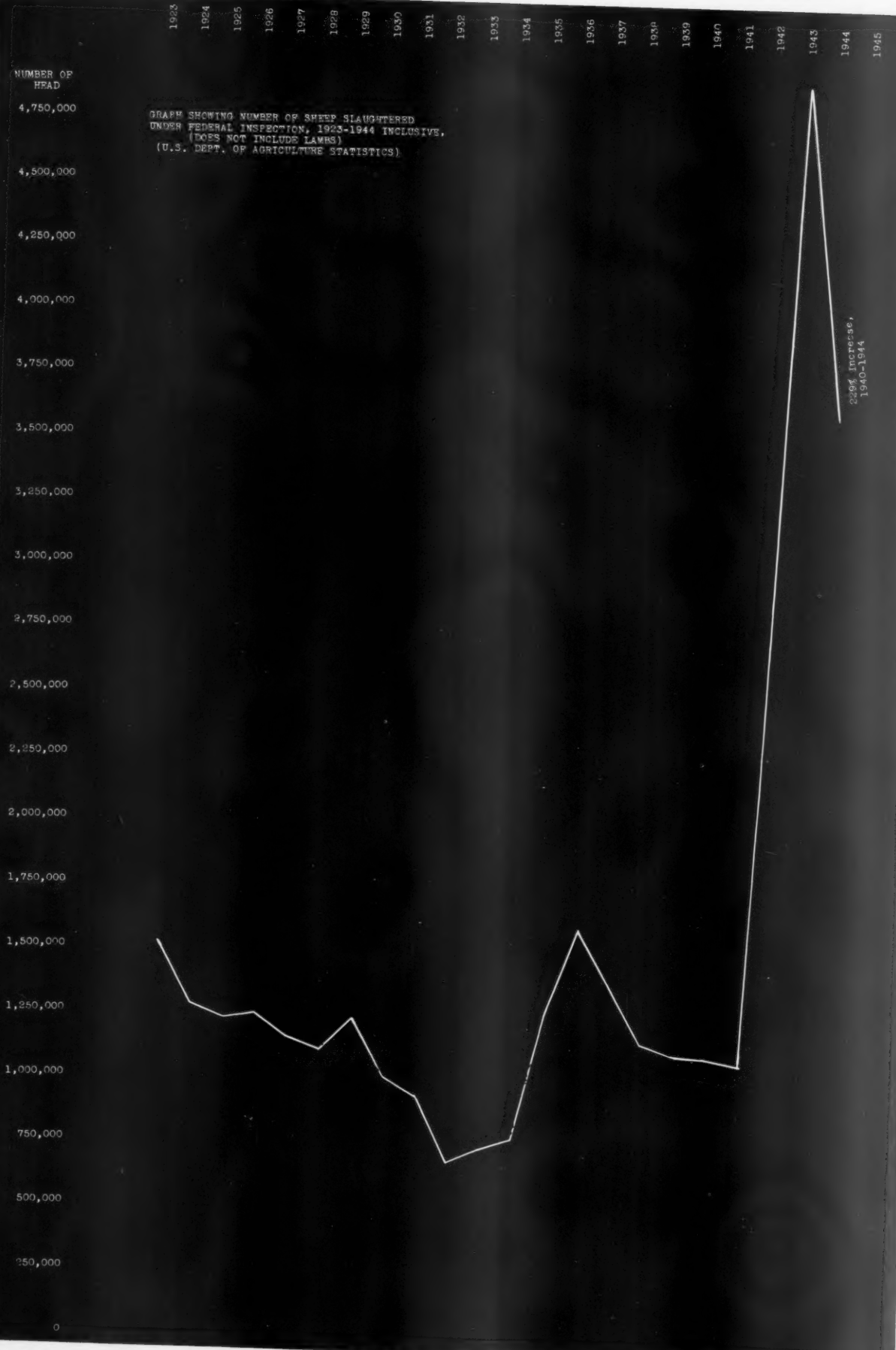
This particular point is brought out

at this time because failure by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to recognize actual conditions has led the agencies in control to believe that the sheep industry was not being squeezed. The Department published statistics indicating nothing alarming taking place in the industry and the industry representatives were accused of "crying wolf." On March 28, 1944, I testified before the Banking and Currency Committee of the Senate, "Wool growers in 1944 will produce at a greater loss than in 1943 and production of wool will show a decrease of between 15 and 20 per cent." The U. S. Tariff Commission shows that a representative sample of sheepmen lost \$1.10 per head more in 1944 than in 1943. Likewise the Commodity Credit Corporation's purchases of 1944 wools—and they purchase the entire domestic clip—will be 15 per cent below the production estimated by the Department of Agriculture for 1943. Therefore, liquidation has been more severe.

## Price Ceilings on Wool Lamb and Mutton

The freeze order was placed on the price of wool two days after Pearl Harbor, pegging the price as of that date. Later, supposedly in accordance with the Price Control Act which specified that ceiling prices could not be placed on agricultural products which would reflect a lower price than the highest price paid producers in four definite periods, prices paid for wool on December 15, 1941, were selected as the base for ceilings on that commodity. The Department of Agriculture reported an average farm price to producers of 37.1 cents per grease pound on that date.

Wool is not sold for consumption to mills on a grease basis but on the basis of clean wool. Therefore, for practical purposes, it was necessary to use prices of clean wool in establishing ceiling prices. How these prices were obtained from the 37.1 cents above, we have never been sure, and inasmuch as clean prices were the basis for the ceilings, we have never felt that the proper period was used, because



the period 1920-1929 reflected higher prices for clean wool than did the December 15, 1941, figures used. Nevertheless, we were never allowed to review the computations and were forced to accept the ceilings placed upon us. These same ceiling prices are in effect today.

Restriction was placed on the price of lamb in August, 1942. In the opinion of the Office of Price Administration, the carcass price of lamb during July 27 to 31, inclusive, reflected a price to producers in accordance with the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942. The permanent ceilings became effective December 23, 1942.

In October, 1942, temporary price ceilings were placed on mutton, based on prices existing September 28 to October 2, 1942. The justification for this temporary ceiling was never known. The action did not conform to the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942 as amended, nor to the Executive Order No. 9250, because sheep had never reached parity, or any of the four alternatives below which a ceiling could not be placed according to law.

However, when the permanent ceilings were issued on December 23, 1942, prices for mutton at wholesale were figured on a 3-cents-per-pound increase over the temporary base in order to conform to the law. In the meantime mutton had been subjected to a ceiling which did not conform to the law for about 3 months during the period of heaviest receipts.

#### The Roll-Back

These price ceilings on lamb and mutton carcasses remained in effect until June, 1943, when wholesale and retail prices of lamb and mutton were rolled back approximately 2 cents per pound. This roll-back or consumer subsidy was in no way to have affected the price of live lambs. Theoretically live animal prices were to remain approximately on the same level, the consumer was to benefit in a lower price and the processor or packer receive the money.

#### The Effect of the Roll-Back

What actually happened in the case of lamb is shown by the United States Department of Agriculture's average price of lambs at Chicago. After the roll-back of meat prices, lamb prices started down. Average lamb prices fell from \$15.22 per hundredweight in June to a low of \$13.54 per hundred-

weight in November, 1943. In the face of great demand and need for meat, the decline in prices was entirely too severe. In the last 5 months of the year, and this is the time when over 56 per cent of the sheep and lambs were marketed, a decrease is shown for every month of 1943 as compared to the prices of the corresponding months of 1942. In 1944 prices were more in line with 1942 except in the last two months when they were lower.

The following table gives the comparison of prices in 1942, 1943, and 1944 for these five months:

Average Price of Lambs per 100 Pounds—Chicago

Month	1942	1943	1944
August .....	\$14.60	\$14.06	\$14.60
September .....	14.16	13.96	14.34
October .....	14.30	13.75	14.41
November .....	14.62	13.54	14.44
December .....	15.39	14.12	14.69

These prices declined in the face of ever-increasing costs of production. With ceiling prices on the products of the sheep industry (along with the continued threat of ceilings on live lambs), and little control placed on costs of production, the relationship of prices became unbalanced and unprecedented liquidation of lambs and sheep was the result, and still continues.

#### Remedies Attempted

We have had much correspondence and many conferences with O.P.A. and W.F.A. officials attempting to work out a satisfactory solution to our problem. We have made available to them all of the information on costs of production that could be accumulated. We have presented the entire matter many times to the agencies in control. But all of this has been to no avail. Each one has passed the responsibility to the other or to the Office of Economic Stabilization.

We have done our best to aid in solving the problems incident to the industry. I have told and shown you of the tremendous liquidation in the sheep industry since 1942.

I should like to present a graphic report of the conclusions of a study issued by the U. S. Tariff Commission under date of January, 1945. This chart depicts the trend of income and expense in the sheep industry since 1940.

In 1940 expenses and income were very close together. The Tariff Commission shows a loss of 6 cents per head for that year. In 1941 income rose more

rapidly than expenses and a profit of 97 cents per head of sheep was shown. Expenses continued in a straight-in-line rise in 1942, but income continued to increase slightly more rapidly and a profit of \$1.14 was recorded. Here the picture changes; prices were rolled back, and although these were not to affect the producer, live prices were lower, labor was less efficient, production of wool and lamb was less per head and a loss of 12 cents per head was the result for 1943. In 1944 expenses climbed at a slightly more rapid rate than in the past and income continued to decline and the result is a loss of \$1.22 per head. Ceiling prices are stationary and expenses continue to climb regardless of the propaganda of the O.P.A., and I use the term "propaganda" without reservation as far as the sheep industry is concerned.

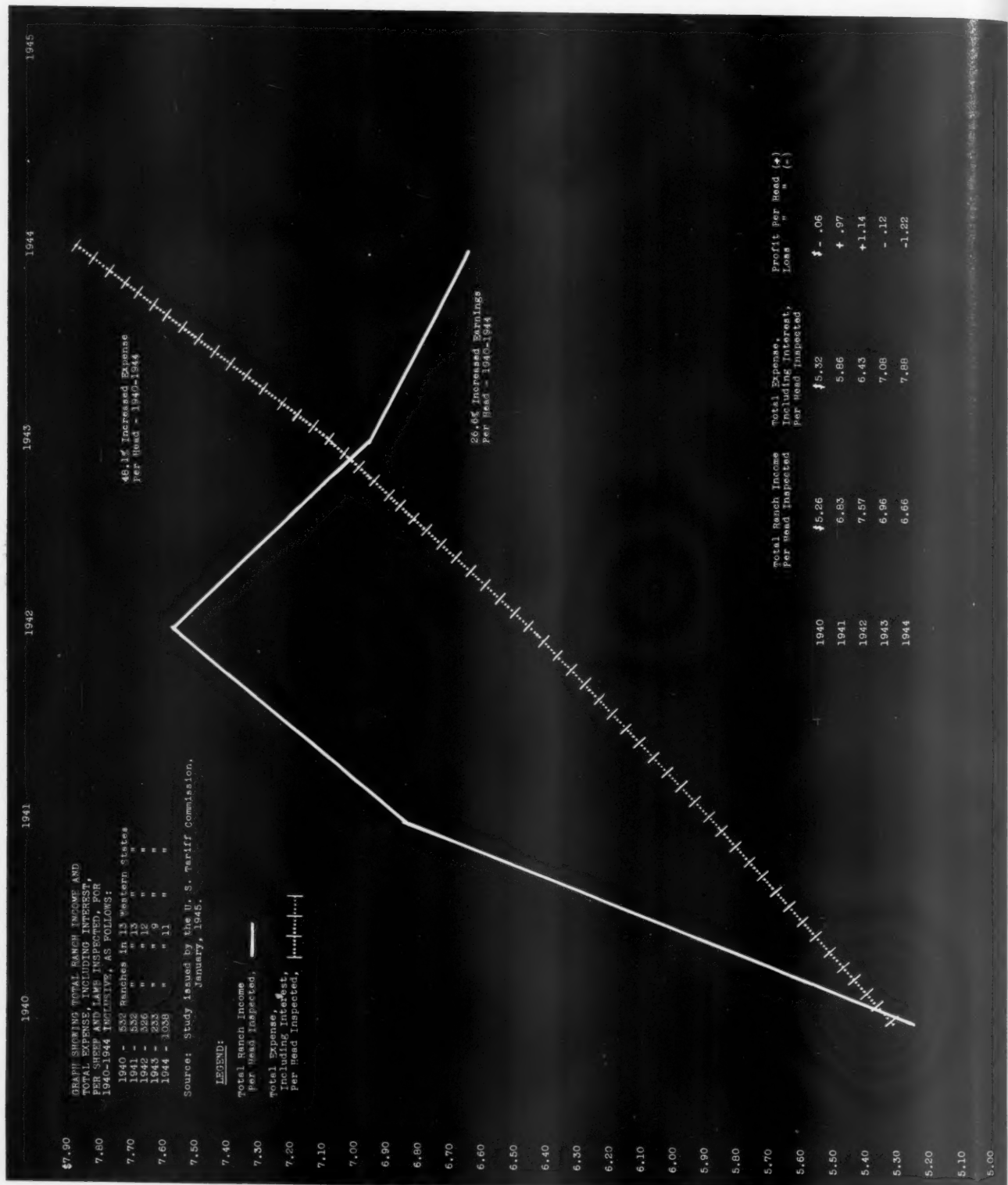
I have another picture taken from reports of the United States Department of Agriculture which tends to substantiate the study of the cost of production by the U. S. Tariff Commission.

This is a graph showing prices received by farmers for sheep, lambs and wool; farm prices of tame hay and corn; and estimated monthly income of farm and industrial workers from 1910 through 1944.

Industrial wages are shown on a monthly basis per worker. These wages have risen from \$106 to \$212 or an increase of 100 per cent. The only reason for showing industrial wage trends is to show that industrial wages very closely parallel farm wages.

Farm wages increased from \$44 per month in 1940 to \$134 in 1944 or a rise of 204 per cent. From the standpoint of the sheep industry, hired labor represents between 20 and 30 per cent of the total cost of production. A 204 per cent rise in a fourth of the entire expense is something which cannot be overlooked. It is heard from every agency that labor is the big problem of the industry. There is no doubt about labor being a very important factor. And the main reason why labor is a problem is due to the problem of keeping labor on the farm at \$134 per month when industrial wages are \$212. This industrial competition for labor has been tremendous. Should the profits of the sheep industry permit meeting the industrial wage scale, our labor problems would not be so difficult, but from the Tariff Commission study it is readily seen that this is im-

(Continued on page 17)





GRAPH SHOWING PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR SHEEP, LAMBS & WOOL; FARM PRICES OF TAME HAY AND CORN; AND ESTIMATED MONTHLY INCOME OF FARM AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS - 1910-1944 INCLUSIVE.

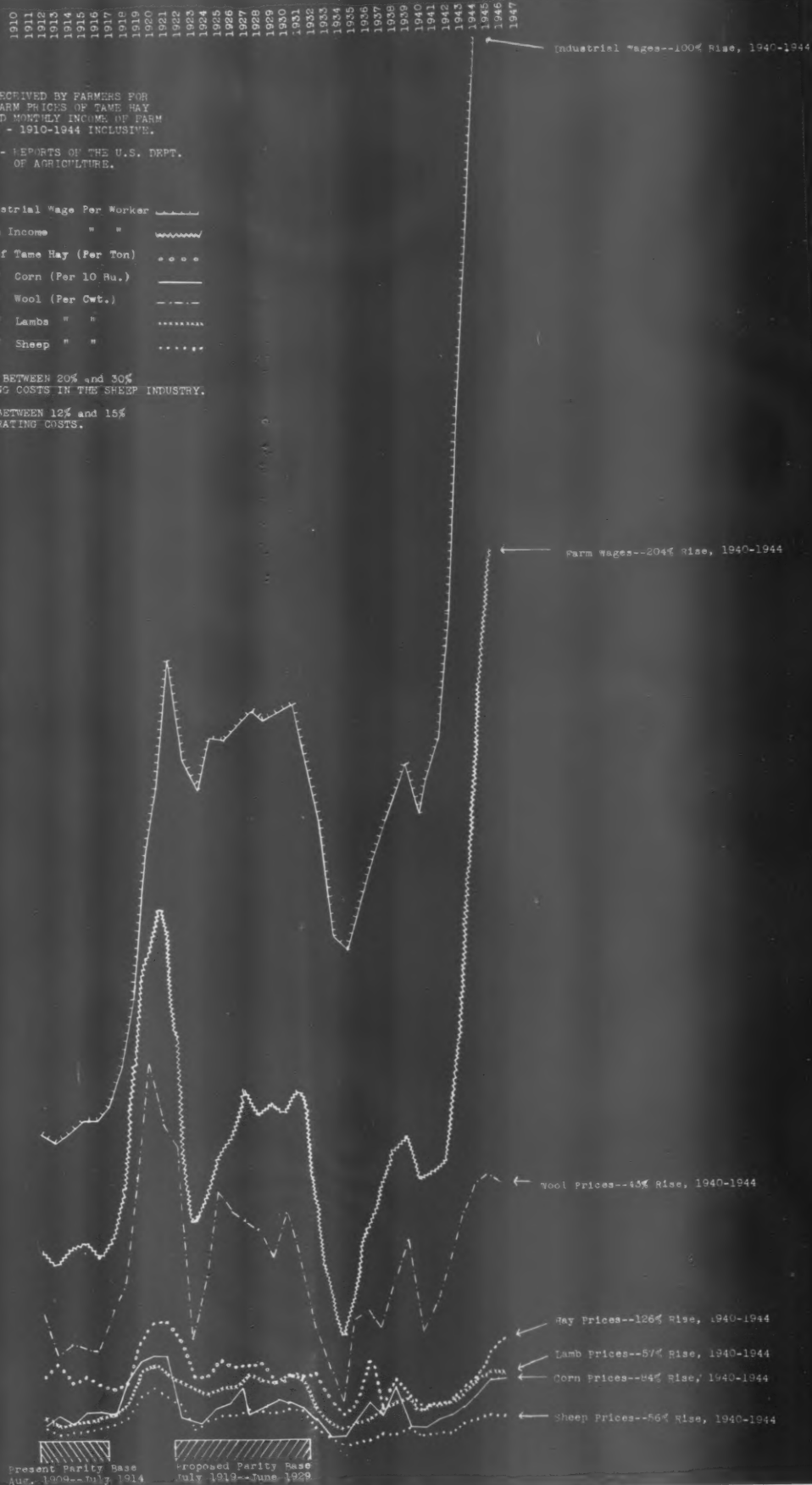
SOURCE OF STATISTICS -- REPORTS OF THE U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE.

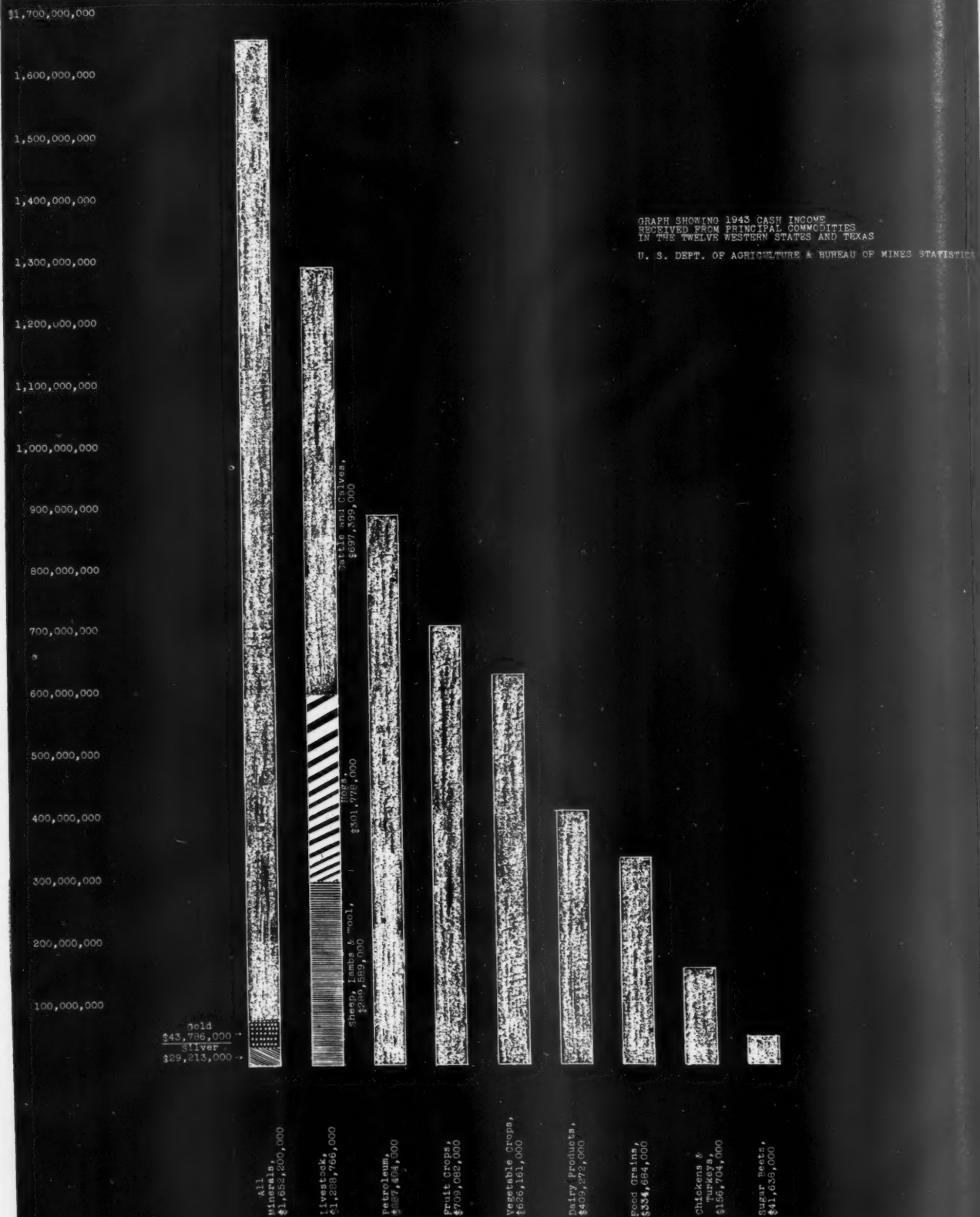
LEGEND:

Average Monthly Industrial Wage Per Worker	_____
" " Farm Income	~~~~~
" " Farm Price of Tame Hay (Per Ton)	.....
" " " " Corn (Per 10 Bu.)	_____
" " " " Wool (Per Cwt.)	-----
" " " " Lambs	.....
" " " " Sheep	.....

NOTE: LABOR REPRESENTS BETWEEN 20% and 30% OF TOTAL OPERATING COSTS IN THE SHEEP INDUSTRY.

FEED REPRESENTS BETWEEN 12% and 15% OF THE TOTAL OPERATING COSTS.





possible, and with the indifference of the three most important agencies that regulate our lives, the O.P.A., W.F.A., and O.E.S., nothing but liquidation is possible.

Another item of cost which represents between 12 and 15 per cent of the total cost of production is feed. Hay, for example, has increased from \$7.80 per ton in 1940 to \$17.60 in 1944, an increase of 125 per cent. Corn has risen from \$6.18 in 1940 to \$11.40 per ten bushels in 1944 or an 80 per cent rise.

The trend of two items that make up over 40 per cent of the total production costs has been shown. More were not shown because of lack of space.

Now, let us look at what has happened to the products the sheep industry has to sell. Wool prices rose from 28.3 cents per grease pound in 1940 to 40.6 cents in 1944 or 43 per cent. Lamb prices rose from \$8.10 per hundred-weight in 1940 to \$12.75 in 1944 or 57 per cent. These two products, even in the years of abnormal slaughter of breeding stock, represent 90 per cent of the total cash income in the sheep business. Sheep prices rose from \$3.95 per hundred pounds in 1940 to \$6.17 in 1944 or 56 per cent.

I would like to call your attention to the fact that prices paid for sheep in 1944 were 50 cents per hundred pounds less than in 1943 and that lamb prices dropped 15 cents per hundred pounds and wool decreased \$1.00 per hundred pounds for the same period. This took place under stationary ceilings, at a time when the demand for meat and fiber was large and in the face of ever-increasing uncontrolled costs of production.

I would like to call your attention again to the fact that these are not figures our industry has made up. They are from published statistics of the United States Department of Agriculture.

#### Our Association's Recommendations

The National Wool Growers Association at its 80th annual convention January 29-31, 1945 adopted the following recommendations:

(1) The Association is opposed to the rationing of lamb under point values for the reason that, since its adoption, prices to the consumer have risen. The program has failed utterly in its purpose. It has failed in proper distribution; it has forced the producer

and feeder to operate at a loss and has drastically reduced, and will further reduce, production; and finally it is harmful to the war effort.

(2) We are not satisfied with the present system of grading lambs. We feel that the top grade is too narrow because consumers' ideas vary somewhat as to what is choice lamb. We think that the market could absorb more lambs at top ceiling prices. Because it is very unprofitable to feed lambs from good to choice grades and because consumers get very little practical value from the excess fat required in a choice over a good carcass, and actually object to it, we therefore ask that the same price be paid for "A" grade which now is paid for "AA" grade lambs.

(3) We are unalterably opposed to any ceiling on live animals, as it would tend to diminish production and be unworkable. The cattle and hog growers have been subjected to ceilings on their live products and we urge that lambs and sheep be kept out of this situation. We request our Washington representatives to oppose vigorously any program of this nature.

We request that the officers of the National Wool Growers Association present cost of production figures to the O.P.A. officials, and in this connection endeavor to have Mr. Madigan of the O.P.A. fulfill his promise made at the Colorado wool growers' convention in July that if costs of production figures could be shown justifying an increase in ceilings, the O.P.A. would be favorable to such an increase.

(4) In view of the increase in the cost of sheep production and in lamb feeding, together with the decrease in the price of offal, we ask that the present ceilings on dressed lamb and mutton be increased commensurately with the increase in the cost of production.

(5) The Association opposes the paying of subsidies to packers on imported lamb and mutton.

#### Association Represents

The membership of the Association consists principally of wool growers in Texas and 12 other western states which have state wool grower organizations affiliated with the National. Over 70 per cent of the sheep industry in the United States is located in this area, representing an investment of three-

fourths billion dollars and requiring the services of 175,000 operators. These states, according to the estimates of the Department of Agriculture, have 29,335,000 head of stock sheep out of a total 41,315,000 head in the United States.

#### Importance of Livestock Industry to the West

Ninety-six per cent of the western range lands occupied by this great industry is adapted only to the raising of livestock. Further, the balance of the acreage is given over almost entirely to raising feed for the stock raised in the area.

Except for the livestock industry, this land would be non-producing and non-taxable and the whole region would be of little value except for the mineral values and oil, but these resources are expendable and are being expended at a rapid rate—they are not replaceable. Livestock utilize only the annual resources of this country, and over the years to come will be the principal source of wealth.

I have a picture here which should be interesting. This shows the 1943 cash income received from the principal commodities or products in the twelve western states and Texas. The source of these figures is the Department of Agriculture. The first bar shows the cash income from all minerals—\$1,652,000,000. Of this amount, copper—\$266,689,000; gold—\$43,786,000; silver—\$29,213,000, and the remainder in coal and other minerals. These, of course, are expendable.

The second bar shows the livestock industry second in importance with a total income of \$1,288,766,000 or over three fourths as much as the income from minerals. Cattle represents \$697,399,000; hogs, \$301,778,000; and sheep, lambs, and wool, \$289,589,000. The livestock industry reaps only the annual production of this western country and could continue indefinitely under profitable conditions.

The sheep industry is not profitable at the present time. The question is very plainly: "Is a domestic sheep industry desirable?" If the answer is in the affirmative, assurance must be given the industry that it will receive prices for its products which will cover the cost of production. It cannot exist under the present treatment of the Washington bureaus.



# Wool in Review

## Small 1945 Wool Clip

THE Bureau of Agricultural Economics predicts that this year's clip will be the smallest of record since 1928. Basing its estimate on an 8.7 per cent reduction in sheep numbers as of January 1, 1945, the B.A.E. sets the 1945 wool clip at about 320 million pounds, or about 6½ per cent below the 1944 clip, and about 18 per cent below that of 1942, the year before the slide downward in sheep numbers commenced. This government agency says that prices for wool and lambs have been a major contributing factor in this decline, as well as high production costs and shortage of efficient help.

In the Livestock and Wool Situation for March, the B.A.E. says:

Since 1943, prices received by farmers for wool have been lower in relation to prewar prices than prices received for farm products in general. Wool prices increased much more rapidly during the early war years than prices of all farm products combined. By 1942 the price of wool was 66 per cent above the prewar average, compared with an increase of only 48 per cent for all farm products. Wool prices increased only moderately after ceilings were established in December, 1941, but the general level of farm product prices continued to increase, and in 1944 it was 82 per cent above the prewar average (1935-39) while wool prices were only 71 per cent above prewar. Changes in lamb prices, although less than the increase in wool prices, also were relatively more favorable to producers than changes in prices of all farm products combined during the early war years, and less favorable in 1943 and 1944.

\*\*\*\*\*

Not only have prices for wool and lambs shown a smaller increase, compared with prewar prices, than competitive farm products, but sheep raising probably has been in a less favorable position in respect to increasing costs of production in the last 2 or 3 years. Costs of hired labor and feed account for a greater percentage of cash costs in producing sheep, lambs, and wool than in producing beef cattle. Hired labor costs probably are a more important consideration in producing sheep than they are in the production of mechanized crops such as grains. Such costs have shown a much greater increase during the war period than costs of machinery replacement, interest, etc. For the United States as a whole, the index of farm wage rates in 1944 was 168 per cent higher than the 1935-39 average, and on January 1, 1945, it was 224 per cent above the prewar average. As of January 1, 1945, the index of farm wage rates was 182 per cent higher than the 1935-39 average.

age in the West North Central States, 217 per cent higher in West South Central States, and 186 per cent higher in the Mountain States. These are the largest wool producing regions.

In addition to the increasing costs of labor, sheep growers have found it difficult to obtain experienced labor even at greatly increased wages. This has been an important factor in the heavy liquidation of breeding stock which has occurred in Western Range States since 1942. Lack of experienced help at lambing time and for handling sheep in range bands is likely to result in greater loss in the sheep industry than would result from inexperienced help with range cattle.

## The Market

Many factors clouded the wool market picture at the end of April, according to the Commercial Bulletin of April 28. While reported as being quiet, spot wools were moving rapidly and activity was expected to increase as soon as larger supplies of the new domestic clip were available or more shipments of foreign wools arrive. The effect of the end of the war in Germany on government contracts was also conceded to be a possible factor in holding back purchases by mills, although the War Department has said there will be no cut-backs and the W.P.B. has declared that the textile scarcity will continue through and some time after the end of the Japanese conflict.

## Government Orders

If the government orders hold, strong demand should continue through the year, for the 1945 requirements as recently reported by the Quartermaster General are large. They are compared in the following table with the 1942 deliveries:

Goods	(000 omitted)	
	1942	1945*
18-oz. serge	51,300	60,000
10.5-oz. shirting	38,276	33,000
32-oz. Melton	27,328	21,060
Blankets	14,717	15,500

\*Subject to change by developments in combat theatres.

Bids received on recent orders by the Quartermaster Corps were reported as

falling short of requirements in most cases and manufacturers have been asked to increase their offerings. Bids were asked on 10,841,000 units of 50 per cent wool and 50 per cent cotton underwear for delivery in July, August, and September and on 1,375,000 yards of knitted woolen cloth.

## Domestic Wools

Around 17,000,000 pounds of the 1945 clip had been appraised up to the end of April. This poundage included around 10,000,000 pounds of greasy, shorn wool. Appraisals at Boston were reported as 9,160,583 pounds, including 3,193,804 pounds of greasy shorn wool. At San Angelo, 2,642,209 pounds had been appraised and at Portland 2,053,603 pounds. On March 31, the Commodity Credit Corporation indicated a total of 278,736,790 pounds of shorn and pulled wool from the 1943 and 1944 clips on hand and 54.6 per cent of the purchases in both years as sold. Percentages of the grades of greasy shorn staple wools sold up to the end of March were: Fine (64/70s) 43 per cent, fine medium (60/64s) 42 per cent, half-blood (60s) 61 per cent, three-eighths (58s, 56/58s) 68 per cent, and quarter blood 94 per cent. Of short greasy shorn wools, percentages sold were: Fine (64/70s) 18 per cent, half-blood (60/64s) 30 per cent, three-eighths (56/58s) 57 per cent and quarter blood (50s) 52 per cent.

A good demand for fine and half-blood domestic wool exists as a result of recent government orders. Graded fine 60s to 64s and original-bag Arizonas are selling; there is a steady turnover in three-eighths blood and newly graded Idaho wools are moving easily, the Commercial Bulletin (April 28) reports. Graded staple Montana wools have been appraised recently at the following prices in Boston: 64s (fine) 46.41 cents, (60%) and 38.94 cents (67%), 60/64s (Fine medium) 40.12 cents (66%) and 57.12 cents (52%), 3/8ths (49%) 55.08 cents and 39.59 cents (63%), and 1/4-blood at 52.92 cents (46%) and 49 cents (50%).

## Foreign Purchases

With 13,000,000 pounds of wool purchased in Australia during the first two weeks in April, total purchases in that country for importation into the United States from August 1, 1944, reached 220,000,000 pounds. This compares to a total of 165,000,000 pounds for the same period in the previous year. More Argentine wool is being approved for importation during the second quarter of this year by the War Production Board. The wool to be imported will be largely 46s to 60s and used for the manufacture of blankets for use in the Army and in liberated areas, "pending the availability of the new domestic clip," the War Production Board release of April 24 says. A limited quantity of India wool largely for carpet manufacture has also been approved for importation by the War Production Board under General Conservation Order M-73.

## Stockpile Wool

In the 23rd auction of government-owned stockpile wools in Boston on April 18, a total of 1,944,181 pounds of greasy Australian wools was sold out of an offering of 3,016,761 pounds. Bidding was active and ceiling prices obtained on most lots except the burry wools and those of 70s and finer grade. This auction and the private sales by brokers reduced the stockpile of foreign wools to 64,676,840 pounds as of April 15.

## "Freeze" Orders

The orders freezing all of the wool top and worsted machinery and about 80 per cent of the woolen system for the manufacture of military goods are now (April 30) expected to be continued well into the third quarter of this year, probably until the middle of August. Basis for this expectation lies in the fact that government orders now placed call for delivery in that quarter. Direction 3 to the General Conservation Order M-73 issued by the War Production Board restricted for military use the production of wool tops from December 31, 1944 to May 12, 1945, and those processed between January 14 and June 2, while the set-aside directives on the use of woolen machinery for government contracts cover the period February 11 to June 18, this year.

## French Manufacture Confined To Military Fabrics

All of the 35,000 tons of wool which Great Britain is under agreement to furnish France during an eight-month period is to be used for clothing people in the armed forces and refugees; none of it is to be used in the manufacture of novelty woolen fabrics, it is reported.

## National Wool Show

THE preliminary premium list of the 4th Annual National Western Wool Show, which was made the official wool exhibit of the National Wool Growers Association in its convention this year, has just been issued. While the dates for the show have not yet been selected, it will of course be held at the National Western 1946 Stock Show in Denver.

In the territory fleece division 10 premiums ranging from \$10 down to \$1 will be offered in each of six classes. On Texas type fleeces, 10 premiums of a similar range will be offered in two classes. For farm flock fleeces, premiums from \$8 to \$1 will be awarded in each of six classes. Six awards (\$8 to \$1) will also be made on ram and ewe fleeces from purebred sheep of the following breeds: Rambouillet, Corriedale, Hampshire, Suffolk, Southdown, Lincoln and Cotswold (as one breed), Columbia and Panama (as one breed), and Romney.

Fleeces winning first prizes may compete for the champion and reserve champion trophies, and Colorado fleeces may compete for the W. C. Osborn trophy.

The show is open to all wool growers in the United States. An entry fee of \$1 per fleece is charged. Exhibitors are limited to two entries in each class. Fleeces must have been shorn in 1945 and represent not more than 12 months' growth, except in the case of yearling fleeces when 16 months' will be allowed. Fleeces will be discriminated against if they are not properly tied and show excessive tags, burrs, etc.

Copies of the rules and regulations and the premium lists for the National Western Wool Show may be obtained from the National Western Stock Show, Union Stockyards, Denver, Colorado.

## Pacific Coop Opposes Trade Agreements

Directors of Pacific Wool Growers held their 25th annual meeting in Portland on April 5, 1945. Officials reviewed the history of the association, which came into being as a result of the debacle in the wool market which followed World War I, and is now completing a quarter of a century of wool marketing. This cooperative now represents over 3,000 members, who run between 500,000 and 600,000 sheep in the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California and Nevada.

At the meeting the Board passed resolutions opposing the extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act and asked that:

1. Trade agreements be made subject to review by the Tariff Commission, with full public hearings accorded the affected industries and subject to the final decision of one or both houses of Congress.

2. The elimination of the devastating possibilities contained in the "most-favored nation" clause.

R. L. Clarke of Portland was re-elected president of Pacific Wool Growers. R. A. Ward, who has served as manager of the association for twenty-five years, was re-elected vice president and general manager. Robert H. Warrens of Forest Grove and C. E. Grelle of Portland were re-elected to the positions of vice president and secretary, respectively.

## British Wool Conference

NONE of the discussions or decisions of the Empire Wool Conference, which opened on April 16 in London to consider the disposal of the accumulation of wools owned by the British Government, had been reported up to April 26.

As the sessions are closed, a recommendation has been made that the results of the deliberations be submitted for approval to the various wool-producing countries in the Empire before being made public. Talk is also current that following this British meeting a world-wide conference will be called in which the United States and other wool countries outside of the British Empire will be asked to participate.

The British Government is committed to purchase the surplus wool

stocks of Australia and South Africa to the end of the wool season following the termination of the Japanese War, and will have an accumulation of over 350 million pounds of wool to dispose of at time, it is estimated.

Discussions at the London conference are expected to include the subject of wool research and promotion. Australia, setting an example for wool growers in other countries, is raising by a tax levy, over 2 million dollars annually for this purpose. That country has also proposed, it is said, that a substantial quantity of wool be given to China and India to make them more wool conscious.

## Wool Fund Contributors

### CALIFORNIA

Geaney Brothers  
John Geaney  
W. F. Griswold  
Fred E. Inman  
Perry Langer  
Jack McAuliffe  
F. E. Murphy  
Jerry C. Murphy  
McClmonds Bros.  
Lee Sagehorn  
Volf Brothers

### COLORADO

Victor H. Akin & Co.  
Floyd Rockey  
Virgil Stahl  
LeRoy and Norman  
Smith

### IDAHO

D. R. Cathro  
George A. Reed

### MASSACHUSETTS

Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.

### MONTANA

Enid Anderson  
Alex Adolph  
J. A. Agrimson  
Milton S. Bennett  
F. T. Bailey  
Harry Brainard  
Floyd Brownfield  
Thomas G. Cunningham  
Martha Colbo  
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Wilton Newbury  
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Mabel O'Connor  
Albert Obergfell  
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R. B. Peck  
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Eva Pyles and  
Clyde Beach  
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Joseph D. Riley  
C. M. Randall  
W. H. Ryan  
H. N. Romine  
H. W. Schaff  
Ben Stucky  
Andrew H. Stolen  
E. H. Turbeville  
Len Verwolf  
George Vervolf  
Pat L. Waldo  
Ray Winn  
Edward Warlick  
Ben Woodcock  
L. R. Williams  
John Weagel  
C. J. Woodruff  
Robert Yokley, Jr.

### NEW MEXICO

Macedibui Cardenas  
Gabriel Chavez  
Toribio Martinez  
Lucio Martinez  
O. G. Martinez  
Maximiano Martinez  
Mardoqueo Martinez  
Pablo & Salomon  
Martinez  
Rosario Mondragon  
Miguel Martinez  
J. F. Quintana  
J. Felix Sanstitevan  
J. M. Sanchez & Sons  
John Smith

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George J. Johnson  
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Aherr & Collins  
Dan Cashman  
Cox Brothers  
Duggan Brothers  
Enquist & Flynn  
Haskins Brothers  
Kandra & Smith  
Philip Lynch  
Dan McAuliffe  
Dennis T. Murphy  
Don K. Murphy  
Timothy O'Connor  
O'Keefe Brothers  
Dan O'Keefe  
John D. O'Connor  
Frank A. Ruh  
Dave Sullivan

### SOUTH DAKOTA

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Julius Brockamp  
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Arthur Honeymann  
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O. H. Locken & Sons  
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Albert Linderman  
Magnus Locken  
Bill Lindakov  
M. L. Matter  
Frank Maciejewski  
Charles H. Menzel  
Margaret L. O'Leary  
Frank M. O'Leary  
John E. Parrott  
& Walter Chase  
Frank H. Pew  
William Rosenau  
Oscar Rosander  
Arthur Sneesby  
N. S. Schieber  
Louis Thompson  
William Shillingstad  
Turbeville Bros.  
Tom & Emil Tomas

Albert Turbeville  
& Sons  
J. B. Tidball  
Martin Tennant  
Alvin F. Veit  
J. H. Wortman  
Sam Williamson  
Alex Zahrowski

### WYOMING

Henry Brown  
Jess Boner  
J. T. Baskett &  
E. A. Sheppard  
Diamond Ranche  
Abe Demore  
Ernest O. Eder  
Peter J. Etcheverry  
Eureka Sheep Co.  
Frank L. Kane  
Leckie Sheep Co.  
George and Jennie  
McKenzie  
R. B. Marquiss  
Mackenzie Bros.  
Miller Estate  
Lewis C. Mills  
Sundin-Johnson  
Company  
Leroy Smith  
Spring Hill Farm  
Don E. Wilkins

## Packer Support to American Wool Council In 1945

Listed below are the packers who have sent in contributions to the American Wool Council up to May 1, 1945, based on their slaughter during 1944. This support of the research, educational and general wool promotion work of the Council is highly appreciated.

**The Cudahy Packing Company**  
221 North La Salle Street  
Chicago, Illinois

**Oscar Mayer and Co.**  
Madison 1, Wisconsin

**Neuhoff, Incorporated**  
Salem, Virginia

**Swift and Company**  
Union Stock Yards  
Chicago, Illinois

**Wilson and Company**  
41st St. & So. Ashland Avenue  
Chicago 9, Illinois

## U. S. Stockpile Wools To Be Sold Abroad

The Defense Supplies Corporation withdrew all stockpile wools on hand at the close of the business day of May 10 from the market for the purpose of making them available to the Foreign Economic Administration for sale abroad. The amount of wool involved in the transaction is reported as around 60,000,000 pounds.

## Sheep Goals

REFERENCE was made in the March Wool Grower (page 29) to sheep production goals set by the Department of Agriculture for 1945. The item, based on a press statement, stated that while an overall increase of around one million head in the sheep population was desired, no increase in Idaho sheep numbers was anticipated. Explanation of this statement was requested of the Department, and on April 7, G. E. Geissler, director of the Western Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, wrote as follows:

While we are not familiar with the news story which appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune on March 13, we can furnish you the information which you request on the Idaho goal. There has been no recent release from the War Food Administration regarding the state goals for livestock; so it is likely that the story to which you refer was prepared by one of the press services on the basis of the official goals released by the War Food Administrator on January 15.

The Idaho goal for sheep and lambs on farms and ranches on January 1, 1946, is the same as the estimated number on hand on January 1, 1945—1,473,000. While this is not as high as the Idaho agricultural leaders or the War Food Administration would like, it is a goal that will be difficult to reach due to the downward trend which has been taking place in sheep numbers. This goal is a minimum goal.

The national goal for sheep and lambs on farms and ranches on January 1, 1946, is 49,136,000 compared with the estimated number on January 1, 1945, of 47,945,000. This represents a considerable increase in view of the fact that a downward trend is in progress and even holding numbers at the 1945 level will be difficult, unless the problems facing the sheep industry should improve rather extensively. State goals were established for the most part on the optimistic side with some reductions made from those suggested by the W.F.A., because state leaders felt that the goals should be set at a figure which there was at least a chance of reaching.

The War Food Administration policy regarding western sheep numbers was stated rather clearly at the time of the goals' meetings and met with the approval of the state agricultural leaders. The W.F.A. statement on this point was: "Considering the suitability of sheep production to the character and location of the range feed in some of these states, present sheep numbers are below what is needed to get the maximum returns from grazing resources. There is reason to believe, however, that the liquidation in those states has not yet run its course. High operating costs and difficulties in obtaining an adequate number of competent helpers are tending to induce a further reduction in numbers. Although the outlook for lamb prices is rather favorable, the post-war situation with respect to wool is none too clear."



# Lamb Market Reviews and Trading Activities

AS in March, lamb markets in April again shattered 16-year records. Notable tops during the month were \$17.35 at Chicago, \$17 at Omaha, and \$16.90 freight paid at Denver.

Snow and cold weather in the western feeding areas retarded loading operations during the first week of April resulting in a supply 37,000 head smaller than the twelve principal markets received during the last week of March. Small receipts coupled with a broad demand from the East were responsible for a 25- to 50-cent advance at most markets. Yearlings were scarce and aged slaughter ewes held generally steady. Feeding and shearing lambs gained a little strength from the higher slaughter market. Good and choice fed woolled western lambs sold mostly at \$16 to \$16.90, although \$17 to \$17.20 was paid at Chicago. Some wheat-pastured offerings at Kansas City sold up to \$16.50 but most wheat-field lambs sold from \$14.50 to \$15.75, the range for medium and good slaughter lambs. Good and choice feeding lambs, seasonably scarce, sold at \$14 to \$14.50. Good and choice shorn fed lambs with No. 1 skins brought \$15.25 to \$15.90. Good and choice aged slaughter ewes brought \$8.75 to \$9.75 and common kinds sold down to \$7.

During the second week of April shipments delayed by the previous week's storm rolled to market along with the normal movement and resulted on the first day of the week in the largest salable supply in three months. This bulge, as usual, was responsible for a drop in the market and is just another good argument for orderly marketing wherever possible. Part of the decline was recovered later in the week, slaughter lambs closing steady to 25 cents lower, although woolled lambs did gain 25 cents in St. Paul. Good and choice fed woolled western lambs sold at \$15.75 to \$17; medium to good kinds sold at \$14.50 to \$15.75, and shorn lambs brought mostly \$14 to \$15.75. A few medium and good Texas spring lambs brought \$15 to \$15.25 at the corn belt markets. Good and choice

wooled slaughter ewes brought \$8.75 to \$9.75 with shorn kinds from \$7.50 down. Good and choice feeding and shearing lambs sold at \$13.85 to \$15.25.

During the third week of April prices advanced under comparable light receipts early in the week and closing prices were 25 cents above the previous week. Quality of the fed lambs began to indicate the approaching end of the season with some shipments of the clean-up variety. The southwestern markets showed an increasing run of spring lambs. Good and choice fed woolled lambs brought mostly \$16 to \$17.25; medium and good grades sold at \$14.75 to \$16. Shorn lambs ranged from \$14.50 to \$16. Spring lambs at Fort Worth topped at \$15, while feeding lambs at that market brought up to \$13.75. The short supply of good and choice woolled slaughter ewes sold mostly at \$9.50 downward and most shorn ewes, \$7.75 and less. Shearing lambs sold in Denver from \$14.50 to \$14.75.

The last week of April was marked with a decline both in price and quality of western fed woolled lambs as the end of the season approached. Good woolled Colorado's topped in Denver at \$16.85 freight paid and at Chicago good and choice fed woolled western lambs bulked at \$15.50 to \$17. Shorn lambs sold on the markets in a range from \$14.50 to \$15.75. Feeding lambs at Denver weighing 63 to 68 pounds brought \$13 to \$13.50. Good and choice woolled ewes sold on the markets from \$9 to \$10.

## Lamb In New Set-Aside Order

Effective April 29, the War Food Administration added to the set-aside order veal and lamb in federally inspected slaughter houses. The set-aside requirements for lamb excluding yearlings or mutton is 100 per cent of the AA, A and B dressed carcasses weighing 30 to 70 pounds. After sale or delivery of 25 per cent of such lamb to government agents, however, the remainder may be sold through civilian

trade channels. The W.F.A. states that this set-aside order does not affect the total quantity of either lamb or veal available to civilians but merely changes the method of government procurement.

## Sheep and Lamb Contracts

In the Mojave Desert of California it is reported that a few bands of lambs were contracted in April for future delivery at \$14.50 to \$15 per hundredweight. In the lower San Joaquin Valley a few contracts for slaughter lambs were drawn in April at \$14.65 to \$14.75, and in the Fresno section a few contracts were made at \$14.50 to \$14.75 per hundredweight. Some Sacramento Valley contracts for April and May delivery ranged from \$14.50 to \$15. During the last week of April interior butchers contracted some slaughter lambs at \$14 to \$14.50. Several small lots of slaughter lambs for immediate kill were purchased on the east side of the Sacramento Valley at \$13.75 to \$14 per hundredweight.

In northern and northwestern Montana numerous bands of lambs were contracted in April for fall delivery at \$11.50 to \$12 per hundredweight. Some were mixed blackfaced lambs and others, mixed whitefaced lambs. Around 8500 blackfaced yearling ewes out of the wool for July delivery were contracted at \$14 to \$14.25 per head. A few whitefaced ewe lambs were contracted at \$12.50 per hundredweight.

Moroni and Leland Ray Smith of Craig, Colorado, have contracted the Gottsche Estate's and Midland Sheep Company's entire 1945 crop of lambs for delivery this fall at 12½ cents for the wether end and 13 cents for the ewe lambs. These consist of about 16,000 to 18,000 outstanding crossbred ewe lambs and ideal feeding lambs averaging 70 to 75 pounds, October 15 delivery. This is one of the first sales in southwestern Wyoming and northwestern Colorado. Mr. M. A. Smith says they are going to use the ewe end for replacements and are offering feeder lambs for fall delivery at 14½ cents.

## 1944 Average Farm Prices

According to a report by the W.F.A. Office of Marketing Services, the average farm price of lambs in 1944 was \$12.53, or 43 cents per hundredweight below 1943 averages. Sheep sold at \$6.01 per hundredweight in 1944, about 50 cents below 1943 averages.

E.E.M.

## New Beef-Pork Programs

**A**N order was scheduled to go into effect April 1 directing the Defense Supplies Corporation to reduce the special subsidy paid to non-processing slaughterers from 80 cents to 30 cents per live hundredweight on cattle. This order, however, was canceled just before the effective date as a result of a court finding that the non-processing packers were not breaking even financially.

The court found the existing ceilings of processor packers (those handling by-products as well as fresh beef) to be generally fair and equitable. The processor packers handle 85 per cent of the nation's beef.

### The 10-Point Program

Then on April 22 came the announcement of a new O.P.A. program aimed at "higher production and fairer distribution of beef and pork." The program will not increase retail meat ceilings, but provides for:

(1) Control of the amount of slaughter by non-federally inspected plants with a view to diverting more meat to federally inspected packing houses. The purpose of this step is to move more meat across state lines away from producing centers and thereby achieve more equitable nation-wide distribution.

(2) A limit on farm slaughter to increase meat supplies through regular channels.

(3) Assignment by O.P.A. of 500 additional investigators to enforce meat regulations and eliminate black markets.

(4) A special additional subsidy "to assure that no individual slaughterer who operated profitably in peace time" will be forced out of business under wartime conditions.

(5) Cancellation of scheduled reduction of 50 cents per hundredweight in the over-riding ceiling, price range, and subsidy on choice grade cattle.

(6) Immediate increases aggregating \$7,000,000 annually in ceiling prices for army beef; also a sliding scale increase in the general subsidy for choice, good and common grades of beef with a maximum increase of 25 cents per hundredweight when cattle are selling at the top of the price

range. This is designed to keep slaughter profitable and minimize slaughter losses.

(7) Completion of a study on pork and pork product cost data to determine whether subsidy or ceiling increases are necessary, any allowance to be retroactive to April 1.

(8) Intensification of present Army program of encouraging non-federally inspected packing houses to take federal inspection. The goal is to obtain 10 per cent Army requirements in this way and thus free more meat for civilians from plants already federally inspected.

(9) Request to slaughterers to distribute their meat more fairly among those dependent upon them in the past. If this fails, an allocation order will be put into effect.

(10) Preparation of a program for the protection of livestock ceilings should the higher subsidies "be used not to relieve the 'squeeze' but to bid up the prices of live animals still farther." If severe pressure on ceilings develops and threatens to break down the ceiling system, live animals will be allocated to federally inspected plants.

The purpose of the program is to stop the sale or purchase of meat at over-ceiling prices or without ration points. After this is accomplished the government will attempt to wipe out black market operations. Some groups, however, are quite skeptical as to the outcome of this program. The American Meat Institute states that the program "does not hold promise of increasing the over-all supply of beef for the American public, nor will it eliminate the strangling losses being imposed on the business." They feel also that the program is extremely complicated and technical and will not accomplish what is intended for consumers, cattle feeders or meat packers.

As we go to press the Senate Food Investigation Committee is also evidently disappointed with the new ten-point program and is making sharp suggestions for an immediate overhauling of the government's food controls. The committee is expected to recommend that the entire food program be placed in one central authority. Recent hearings of this committee have served to emphasize and verify contentions of many in the livestock industry that the O.P.A. has been unfair in many of its orders and inefficient in its operating methods. If the sheep industry of this country is to be encouraged, certainly the loosening of the controls that have been responsible for much of its liquidation since 1941 will have to take place.

### Point 2 of the Program

Federally inspected packing plants are the only ones which can sell to the government and ship across state lines.

Since people living in many of our metropolitan areas are dependent on interstate shipments, the government is setting limitations on farm slaughter as one means of moving more meat into federally inspected plants. Farm slaughterers will not be permitted to sell more dressed meat in any quarter of this year than in the corresponding quarter of 1944. Furthermore, they will have to register for the sale of dressed meats through their War Price and Rationing Boards; they will have to report their sales and collect red ration points. Farmers who killed no meat for sale in 1944 may, if they register, market up to 400 pounds. Farm slaughter for home consumption is not affected by this program.

### Rationing

Right on the heels of the ten-point program comes the announcement that further meat rationing goes into effect Sunday, April 29. Under the new schedule civilians must give up red points for all cuts and grades with the sole exception of mutton. Added to the ration list are cull and utility grades of veal and lamb and all grades of the less popular cuts of veal and lamb such as breasts, shanks, necks, and flanks. Red point increases run one to two points per pound for most cuts of all grades of lamb and veal and a point a pound on most beef steaks. Decreases of one to two points apply on beef roasts and other beef cuts.

### New Hog Support Price

On April 11 a new support price on hogs was announced by W.F.A. and O.P.A. The support price of hogs has been increased from \$12.50 to \$13 per hundredweight, Chicago basis. For good and choice butchered hogs of all weights up to 270\* pounds the new price went into effect immediately and is to continue until September 1, 1946. This is a move designed to insure the largest practical production and marketing of pork products.

\*Later changed to 300 pounds.

E.E.M.

### Remember the

National Ram Sale Dates:

August 21-22, 1945

## Kansas City

THE month of April found a total of 275,000 sheep passing through the Kansas City terminal, of which 203,000 were salable. Comparing these figures with those of April, 1944, which included a total of 133,300 of which 124,500 were salable, we find ample justification for the contention earlier in the year that Kansas wheat pastures held almost a record number during the winter grazing season. All indications are that the movement of wheat pastured lambs to market is practically completed. It is estimated that as this is written only some 60,000 remain to be marketed, and they should certainly be moved during the first week in May. Completion of the movement was somewhat delayed in spite of the fact that most contracts expired April 15 by chill weather that retarded jointing of the wheat.

Spring lambs have arrived in comparatively small numbers from Texas, Arizona, and nearby areas. The bulk of the arrivals in this class from Texas

and Arizona were of only medium to good grade, while many of the natives ranged upward to choice. On most market sessions there was little difference in value of springers and comparable grades of fed woolled lambs.

Supplies of slaughter ewes have been comparatively light, and the movement of shorn lambs is just commencing. Shearer buyers have, however, been active competitors for lightweight woolled lambs.

In spite of the comparatively large movement, prices have held up exceptionally well and lambs are generally considered steady to a quarter higher than at the close of March. Ewes for the same period are mostly steady although the very best offerings show a 25 cent advance in spots. Good and choice lambs are quotable from \$15.75 to \$16.25, medium and good from \$14.50 to \$15.50, and common from \$12 to \$14.25. Good and choice slaughter ewes are selling from \$8.50 to \$9.25 and common and medium lots from \$7 to \$8.25.

Bob Riley

## Chicago

THE broad demand for meat for war purposes and on civilian account during April advanced the lamb market to the highest point in 16 years. The supply was largely fed western lambs of good quality which made average prices show an exceptionally high level.

Shortage of pork was a potent factor in improving the lamb demand but the scarcity of other meats was a contributing cause. The alleged black markets in the East brought the cattle average to the highest on record and indirectly stimulated a better demand for mutton products. Government authorities say about 25 per cent of dressed lamb is allocated to the armed forces, which leaves a distinct shortage for public consumption. This condition was strongly reflected in the broad demand for lambs on shipping account. Over 60,000 were sent out from this market, considered by good authorities to be the largest number of lambs ever moved out of Chicago for April for

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Facts such as these give some idea of the part electronic and war communications equipment is playing in the assault against Japan.

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meat purposes. There were practically no feeders sent out as in most other years when total figures were larger.

Most of the lambs came from Colorado feed lots with a fair percentage from Nebraska and Kansas and a few from Montana and Wyoming. Feeders realized that it was more profitable to give the lambs a good finish and on that account relatively few came that were under half fat or that could be classed as culls, except some small shipments from nearby farms. Because the supply was largely in strong hands at feeding centers, packers were not able to get as many direct as usual.

During the month approximately 175,000 sheep were received at this market, which was larger than April last year but the smallest April supply in over 50 years. This was attributed partly to the different distribution. The California crop was absorbed mostly locally and many lambs that usually come east were sent to the West Coast because of the increased demand from armed forces and war workers. At Chicago it became difficult to get lamb at any retail butcher shop during the month as most of the dressed product went east where the market is better and broader.

Late reports show that the supply of lambs fed in the mountain area is pretty well exhausted and lighter shipments are expected in May. This, it is predicted, will lead to higher prices in the face of relatively high prices for other meat products.

A large percentage of the Colorado lambs sold at \$16.50 to \$17.15 with a good many at \$17.25 at the high time. Commoner grades of woolled lambs cashed at \$16 to \$16.50. Shorn lambs showed up rather freely late in the month and sold largely at \$15 to \$15.75 with No. 1 and No. 2 pelts. One load of exceptionally good clipped lambs brought \$16.25 when the market was at the peak.

Late in the month there was a break of 50 to 75 cents in the market, due partly to increased receipts and to the fact that prices on the hoof had reached a point that was out of line with the ceiling that the O.P.A. had put on the dressed product. The urgent call for meat, however, continued unabated and some of the loss in the market was restored before the month closed.

Aged sheep met with a strong demand all month. Ewes advanced to the highest point of the year and sold readily when fat, and even the lower

grades found a ready outlet at comparatively good prices. A large percentage of the ewe supply went at \$9 to \$9.75 with some top selections at \$10. Ewes with less attractive pelts sold at \$8 to \$9, but all found a good market. There were not many yearlings received during the month. Sales were made at \$15 to \$15.75 for some good qualities and at \$13 to \$14.75 for "outs."

The latest slaughter figures show about 10 per cent gain over the same time last year while the feeder purchase is a little less. It is reported, locally, that a good many shorn lambs are in farmers' hands in the Middle West, but it is not expected that receipts will meet the broad demand during the summer months. As long as the hog supply runs so far below trade requirements, beef and lamb are likely to remain abnormally high.

Frank E. Moore.

## Denver

**S**HEEP receipts at Denver for April, 1945, will total approximately 161,000 head compared to 147,000 in April, 1944, or an increase of about 14,000 head. For the year to date, sheep receipts will total approximately 548,000 head compared to 515,000 for the first four months of 1944, or an increase of about 33,000 head.

Snow and unusually cold weather for this time of year was responsible for a drop in local receipts early in the first week of April. Then, in two days, slaughter lambs advanced mostly 20 to 25 cents, to the highest levels since 1929. Lower-grade, trucked-in lambs, going largely on small killer account, sold as much as 50 cents higher in instances. Other classes were scarce and showed little price change. All lambs arrived by rail were in the fleece, and nearly all came from Colorado feed lots. Around 27 doubles of choice woolled lambs finally sold at \$16.80 freight paid, a new high. Others went freely at \$16.60 flat. Most of the lamb crop graded choice, a few loads in mostly good, or good to choice condition, sold at \$15.85 to \$16.25, largely without freight benefit. Woolled truck-ins grading medium to good sold up to \$15.75 late. Ewes did not beat \$9. Most truck-ins going at \$7.50 to \$8.50, graded common to medium. About 200 head of mixed fat, feeding and shearing lambs were bought by a killer at \$14 to \$14.25.

Trucked-in slaughter lambs and ewes remained fully steady for the sec-

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Guy Toombes, Managing Director

ond week of the month. Numerous loads of choice Colorado fed woolled lambs topped at \$16.60 freight paid and \$16.40 flat each day. Other loads went from \$16 to \$16.50 freight paid. Trucked-in slaughter lambs were comparatively scarce, the best available bringing \$16. This price was also paid for a small lot of springers. Only small lots of slaughter ewes were offered. The best available brought \$9. Others sold from \$8 to \$8.75. One load of 84-pound Wyoming shearing lambs cleared early in the week at \$14.50, this price also taking a number of trucked-in lots ranging from 75 to 90 pounds. Several sizable lots of shearers, from 95 to 100 pounds brought \$15. A few small lots of light feeding lambs cleared at \$13.

For the third week, slaughter lambs gained a little price under small runs and the advance was maintained. The close was strong to 10 cents higher with spots up more on good and choice kinds. Choice woolled lambs sold up to \$16.90 freight paid, in line with the highest point since 1929. Many loads from Colorado feed lots and a few from Wyoming brought this figure. The heaviest lambs at this price scaled 118 pounds. Some going at \$16.65 flat early in the week averaged 120 and 121 pounds. Many choice loads went at \$16.75 on a flat basis. Mostly good Wyomings landed at \$16.35 flat and some from Colorado went at \$16.15 and \$16.25. Practically no shorn lambs were offered. Killers sorted a few woolled yearlings off lamb shipments

at mostly \$14. Trucked-in lambs were scarce, best selling at \$16. Good and choice woolled lots of ewes sold to killers in a small way at \$8.75 to \$9. This class, as well as replacement lambs, closed strong. Small lots of feeding lambs were taken at \$11 to \$13.50, and some shearing lambs, averaging 82 to 99 pounds, went out at \$14.50 to \$15.

During the last week under review, one load of choice 103-pound dry-fleeced lambs went to a shipper at \$16.85 freight paid, or a nickel under the previous week's closing limit. Others with wet fleeces sold freely at \$16.70 freight paid and \$16.50 flat on the same day. Very few choice lambs showed up later in the week. Most lambs offered carried considerable water in their fleeces. A few woolled

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yearlings were sorted off lamb shipments at \$12.50 to \$14. Practically no shorn stock arrived. Ewes continued scarce and showed little or no price change. Early in the week, a four-load string off Kansas wheat pasture sold to local killers at \$9. They graded good and choice and averaged 115 pounds. Trucked-in ewes ranged from \$6.50 to \$9. Most common to medium lots brought \$7 to \$8.50. There was continued fairly broad demand for feeding and shearing lambs and all such lambs closed mostly steady. Shearing lambs sold up to \$15 rather freely early, with others at \$14.50 and \$14.75. A load of mostly good 63-pound Wyoming feeders went out at \$13, another load with a little more weight and quality making \$13.50.

Jacqueline O'Keefe

## St. Joseph

**S**HEEP receipts for the month of April up to and including the 26th were 87,154 compared with 97,544 for the month of March and 90,610 for April a year ago. Of the month's total about 24,100 came from Nebraska and Wyoming feed lots, 9,275 from Colorado, 5,000 from Texas and New Mexico, and 32,600 from Kansas wheatfields.

The lamb market held up well the greater part of the month, though there was some weakness the past week (ending April 27). Compared with the close of March, values show little change. The high point of the month was reached on the 17th and 18th, when choice Colorado and Nebraska lambs topped at \$16.90. On the close best 101- to 107-pounders sold at \$16.40, with others at \$16.25 @ 16.35.

Kansas wheatfielders sold up to \$16.25 during the month, though on late days most of these went as shearers at \$14.50 @ 14.75,\* with a few loads \$15 @ 15.25. A few loads of clips sold at \$14 @ 15 during the month.

Aged sheep held to about a steady level throughout the month. Best woolled ewes sold \$8.75 @ 9.25, with culls down to \$6 and shorn ewes up to \$7.50.

H. H. Madden.

## Omaha

**W**ITH civilian meat supplies shrinking rapidly, the broad local demand supplemented by numerous eastern shipping orders carried April fat lamb values at Omaha to the highest level in 16 years. Top hit \$17 early in

the month. Later on packers complained that poor yields sent values of dressed lambs too high compared with current ceiling regulations and prices were driven lower to close just about steady with the end of March. Approximately 182,000 sheep and lambs were offered or considerably more than were received last April but slightly less than the 1943 and 1942 totals.

Supplies of fed lambs from the Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska feeding areas began to dwindle toward the end of the session and quality as a whole just didn't measure up with that offered earlier in the season. The big end of the month's better lambs brought from \$16.25 to \$16.75 and the closing top stood at \$16.35. Truck-in fed lambs cashed largely from \$15.75 to \$16.25. Quite a few Kansas wheatfielders turned from \$15.25 to \$16. No choice shorn lambs were offered all month but scattered offerings are expected soon. That kind was quotable to around \$15.50. Fed lamb offerings are expected to drop off rapidly in the next two weeks and spring lambs, absent up to now, are expected to begin arriving at Omaha very soon.

Although high feed and labor costs were a limiting factor considered by

lamb feeders, at no time were there enough feeding and shearing lambs available to fill existing orders. In sympathy with advanced prices on killing lambs, the bulk worked about a quarter higher for the period. Good and choice shearing lambs consisted of warmed up kinds originally from Colorado and Wyoming that sold largely from \$14.50 to \$15. Odd shipments of feeding lambs turned from \$13.50 to \$14.50 with only a few lightweight kinds down to around \$12.75. No new-crop feeders have been offered as yet but odd shipments are expected soon.

One of the lightest supplies of aged sheep to reach the Omaha market for some time was offered in April. Bulk of the offering was native ewes that cashed mostly from \$8.50 to \$9.25 or just about steady with the end of March. Hardly any western ewes were here and those that did arrive were not the kind to test values. Cull and canners brought from \$6 to \$8.25. A few shorn ewes realized \$7.75. Lamby ewes met with little country demand although one load was good enough to command \$9.50. Yearlings were particularly scarce with a few odd pens from \$14 to \$14.50.

Dave Lorenson

### Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

	1945	1944
Total U. S. Inspected		
Slaughter, First Three Months .....	5,418,145	4,971,548
Week Ended:	April 28	April 29
Slaughter at 32 centers .....	313,248	290,521
Chicago Average Lamb Prices (Wooled)		
Good and Choice .....	16.58	16.67
Medium and Good .....	15.42	15.49
New York Average Western Dressed Lamb Prices		
Choice, 30-40 pounds .....	26.50	26.38
Good, 30-40 pounds .....	25.00	24.88
Commercial, all weights .....	23.00	22.88

### Weight, Yield and Cost of Sheep and Lambs Slaughtered

	Mar. 1945	Feb. 1945	Mar. 1944
Average live weight (pounds) .....	97.9	97.2	95.4
Average yield (per cent) .....	45.5	45.3	45.5
Average Cost per 100 lbs. (\$) .....	14.94	14.17	14.92

### Federally Inspected Slaughter—March

	1945	1944
Cattle .....	1,213,000	1,057,000
Calves .....	575,000	565,000
Hogs .....	3,474,000	7,165,000
Sheep and Lambs .....	1,723,000	1,538,000

\*These carcass prices reported by the Livestock and Meats Branch of the W.F.A. are ceiling prices.

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**W**HAT THIS RANCHER SAYS to his son is very true. Grass *does* provide their living . . . and a good part of the living for all of us here in America. More than half of a billion acres of the United States—roughly, 50 % of all our farm and ranch lands—is in grass. "Should its harvest fail for a single year," said John James Ingalls, "famine would depopulate the world." Grass is the preserver of much of our agricultural wealth and the basic raw material of many of our necessities. It is a major crop. And more than that, it's nature's way of transferring health-building materials . . . vitamins, minerals, and other essential elements . . . from the soil into the foods that nourish the nation. Grass must pass through livestock to be converted into products useful to man.

So let's give our pastures, meadows and range lands the care they deserve. Grass on your steeper slopes should never be broken. In the long run, it is your most profitable crop on hillsides because it controls erosion by tying down your top soil and reduces evaporation of essential moisture. Your State Agricultural Experiment Station will tell you of new and improved varieties of grass you might try to your profit, and they will also advise you about reseeding, lime, and fertilizer. And never overlook this important rule of grass care—don't overgraze!

We at Swift & Company are marketing the products of your grass, and so we say with you, "Grass is our living, too!"

## CASH PRIZES FOR BEST LETTERS

Write us a letter, 250 words or less, telling us which of the six Swift & Company advertisements that have appeared in this publication since November you prefer, and why.

If you wish to refresh your memory, mail us a request and we will send you all six advertisements. Letters will be judged by an impartial committee whose decisions will be final. First prize, \$50.00; second prize, \$25.00; third prize, \$15.00; fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth prizes, \$10.00. Contest closes July 15. Address your letter to F. M. Simpson, Department 128, Swift & Company, Chicago 9, Illinois.

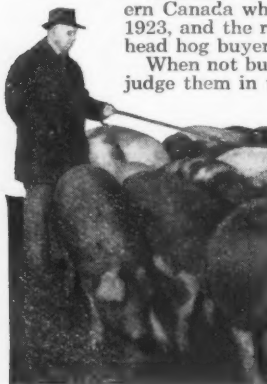
## Meet Bill Reneker, Swift's Head Hog Buyer

If you have marketed hogs since 1907, chances are that Bill Reneker bought some of them for he has bought more than 30 million for Swift's . . . some of them in Western Canada where he was buyer from 1916 to 1923, and the rest in the U. S. A. He became head hog buyer for Swift & Company in 1932.

When not buying hogs, Bill Reneker likes to judge them in the show ring. Right now he's booked until next September to judge at several shows and hog meetings.

An interest in hogs comes to Bill naturally. His father was a livestock salesman and his grandfather conducted a commission business in Pittsburgh as far back as 1866. His hobby is sharing his vast knowledge of hogs with farm boys and girls.

If you should see this big, friendly man in a show ring, don't hesitate to get acquainted with him.



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Dairy Program

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1. Grow plenty of high-quality roughage.
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6. Adopt labor-saving methods.
7. Take care of your land.
8. Develop a sound breeding program.

## VITAMIN B AND "SULFA" DRUGS STOP PIG LOSSES

Experiments which may reduce young pig losses and mean "money in the bank" to many a hog raiser have recently been reported by a leading eastern Agricultural Experiment Station. Mortality was studied in a herd of 65 weanling pigs having an apparently good nutritional history. Almost all of the pigs had diarrhea and abnormal skin condition, and death losses were high. Death losses were halted and the most effective treatment for the most seriously affected pigs was found to be a combination of "sulfa" drugs and the B complex vitamins. In less seriously affected pigs, B complex vitamins were effective in correcting the deficiency.



## There's a Black Sheep

in almost every band. But he's not as bad as his reputation paints him. Permanently dyed black by nature, his fleece cannot be bleached. The uses for black wool are limited so care must be exercised to keep it properly sorted in the wool clip. However, manufacturers do weave it into broadcloth. And—believe it or not—the wool from the black sheep in the flock becomes clothing for the clergy.

## \$5 IDEA WINNERS

To test a spark plug, take a lead pencil, sharpen both ends and make a hole in center, place one end on top of spark plug; ground the other end on cylinder head. Spark will jump the gap in pencil. Mr. Charles W. Wagner, Oak Hill, Illinois.

To save time in greasing the tractor, paint all the daily lubrication spots one color and all the weekly lubrication spots another color. These should show up plainly against the color of the tractor. Mrs. L. K. Schatts, West Union, Iowa.

# Living, Son!"



BUY MORE  
WAR BONDS



## IT'S 2,049 MILES FROM HEREFORD, TEX., TO HARTFORD, CONN.

To the west of the Mississippi is produced two-thirds of the nation's meat. To the east live more than two-thirds of all Americans.

Under these conditions either livestock or fresh meat must be transported from the West to the East, and as we know, it has been found to be more economical to slaughter the animals in central plants in surplus producing sections, save the by-products, then transport the meat in refrigerator cars to the consuming sections, than to ship the live animals.

To have a market for livestock, we must find a market for meat. The job of nation-wide meat packers is to bridge the gap, an average of more than a thousand miles, made up in part from such trips as Boise, Idaho, to Boston; from Denver to Detroit; from Paducah to Pittsburgh; and from Hereford, Texas, to Hartford, Connecticut. It is necessary to have a large organization with proper facilities to handle efficiently nation-wide distribution to the thousands of consuming centers of America.

*We will send you free, on request, an interesting booklet on "Geography of Livestock Production and Meat Consumption." Write to Department 128, Swift & Company, Chicago 9, Ill.*

This is the last page of information that we will issue until September. But please don't let the recess keep you from writing us when we can be of help to you. Better still, come and see us on the second floor of Swift & Company's office building at the Union Stock Yards, Chicago. We have had many personal visitors and thousands of letters since last December 1. Keep it up, please. And remember, we'll be back again in September!

*F.M. Simpson,*

*Agricultural Research Department*

**Swift & Company** UNION STOCK YARDS  
CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

★ ★ NUTRITION IS OUR BUSINESS — AND YOURS ★ ★  
*Right Eating Adds Life to Your Years, and Years to Your Life*

### *Martha Logan's Recipe for* **WESTERN RANCH MEAT LOAF**

- |                                      |                          |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 pounds ground beef, or             | 2 teaspoons salt         |
| 1 pound each beef and                | 2 eggs                   |
| lamb                                 | 3 cups soft bread        |
| 1 medium onion                       | crumbs                   |
| $\frac{3}{4}$ cup diced celery or    | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup water  |
| ground carrot                        | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup tomato |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ cup lard or shortening | juice                    |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ cup diced green        | 2 tablespoons            |
| peppers or                           | melted butter            |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon pepper        | or margarine             |

Chop onion. Brown onion and celery or carrots in lard. Combine with green pepper, salt, eggs, bread crumbs, and water to make a dressing. Add half the dressing (one and one-half cups) to the meat, mixing well. Pat out half the mixture in a two-quart loaf pan. Cover with remaining dressing, then top with remaining meat mixture. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) one and one-quarter hours. Baste twice with tomato juice and butter to keep loaf moist. Yield: 10-12 servings.

## ★ Save Fats for War ★

No amount of used household fat is too small to save. Even one tablespoonful of used fat will help to make enough synthetic rubber for two gas masks.

Skimming of soups and stews will salvage considerable fat. To get the last drop from a greasy pan, rinse the pan with boiling water, then pour this water into an empty can and put in a cold place. The fat rises, hardens, and can be easily skimmed off.



# Auxiliary Activities

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**Press Correspondent**  
Mrs. Emory C. Smith, 1835 Yalecrest Avenue,  
Salt Lake City 5, Utah

## Wool Sewing Contest

PROBABLY the most successful promotion project yet attempted by the Salt Lake Chapter of the Utah Wool Growers Auxiliary was brought to a conclusion at a Tea and Fashion Revue on April 27, 1945, in the Junior Ballroom, Hotel Utah.

Last fall President Mrs. Dan L. Capener of the Salt Lake Chapter suggested to her Promotion Committee that, inasmuch as there are no 4-H Clubs in Salt Lake City with which we can work, we might try and do some sort of wool promotion work in one of the high schools. This suggestion was acted upon at once and she and her promotion chairman, Mrs. Emory Smith, met with the vice-principal and domestic science teachers at the South High School and obtained permission to announce a wool sewing contest open to the students. We were also invited to lecture to the various classes about wool and bring an exhibit.

Before long we were back at the South High armed with information regarding the qualities and manufacture of wool and charts showing wool in the different stages of manufacture, swatches of woolen and part-woolen materials and some smart woolen costumes for the girls to model before their classmates. We appeared before six different classes of nearly a hundred each period and the girls and teachers alike seemed very interested in having this information and the fashions brought to them. Local newspapers carried pictures and articles about what we had done there.

This was the snowball that started an avalanche, as it were, for soon we were invited to bring the same program to the two other large high schools in Salt



Betty Driggs and Gae Black of the West High School, Salt Lake City, put the finishing touches on their costumes for the wool sewing contest sponsored by the Salt Lake Chapter of the Utah Auxiliary.

Lake City and also to allow the girls to participate in the wool sewing contest. Again we became school marms (Mrs. Capener and Mrs. Smith) assisted by Mrs. Jesse Greer, and spent a full day each at the West High School and the East High School.

Now, with prizes promised in three different groups in each of the three schools, it became necessary to worry about how we were to pay for the project. Several wool commission firms of the city contributed ten dollars each, which helped immensely.

The climax of the sewing contest was the Fashion Revue and Tea held on the 27th of April at which eighty-two contestants modeled their own wool entries. Invitations to the tea had gone out to the mothers of all the contestants as well as members of the Auxiliary and educational and other club leaders. Over a hundred and fifty mothers and friends were there to applaud the efforts of these young seamstresses. To

a soft musical accompaniment, the girls, with grace and poise, presented professional-looking ensembles ranging from plaid lounging slacks and weskit to date dresses and two and three-piece suits. The girls from each school came out as a group and their costumes were described by one of their classmates. The music was furnished by some of the high school girls also, making it their show with the Auxiliary members hostesses at the tea.

Three judges—Miss Rosanna Skidmore, head of the Home Economics Department of the University of Utah; Miss Laura Merrill, dress and suit buyer from Z. C. M. I., one of Utah's leading stores; and Miss E. Jay Kearns, a member of the Auxiliary—had a most difficult time making their decisions. The fortunate and deserving winners are as follows: Gloria Ashton, first in the new wool sewing class, West High, modeled a gray flannel woolen suit; Joanne Peterson, first in the remade

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Made of Extra Strength Webbing 1 1/8" x 28"—  
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**COLUMBIAS**

More Wool More Mutton

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Box 334, Bozeman, Montana

woolen class, West High, wore a mid-night blue shadow plaid suit she had made out of a cast-off suit of her father's; and Jacqueline Guillemoteau, winner in the accessory division, West high, wore a clever hat and bag combination made of brown wool with a matching flower for her coat. Helen Davis from the South High was first from her school in the new wool sewing with a black and white bolero suit which she wore with a black blouse trimmed with pearl buttons and clever matching hat. Helen Davis was first in the remade wool sewing from her school with a child's coat made from her sister's old coat, and Jean Dorney's clever woolen accessories were out in front for a prize in the accessory division from her school. A beautiful gold-colored, two-piece cardigan suit won for Joyce Love, East High School, first prize in new wool sewing from her school. This school's accessories and remade articles weren't on display for judging.

All the winners of new wool sewing will be given enough all-wool material for a suit and those winning first places in the remade section will be given enough all-wool material for a dress. Three dollars was awarded winners in the accessory division and runners-up for the new wool were so good they were given a consolation prize of a beautiful pair of hose.

Further valuable publicity was given during the first week in May to some of the outstanding woolen garments modeled in the fashion show by the Z.C.M.I. Department store, which featured them in an important window display.

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Suffolks lead in experimental tests in production, grading and quality of carcass.

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On account of other business I will offer all my Registered Suffolk Ewes FOR SALE. Also about 40 Registered Hampshire Ewes will be available to go in June.

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# Around the Range Country

Around the Range Country is the individual sheepman's section of the National Wool Grower and is open for reports of range and livestock conditions and other information or expressions of opinion on problems of interest to sheepmen generally.

The reports of conditions preceding sheepmen's letters in each state in Around the Range Country are taken from the telegraphic summaries for the week ending April 24, as published in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin, U. S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau.

## ARIZONA

First favorable growing weather since mid-March. Scattered showers in north with warmer weather drying desert ranges, but improving summer ranges. The livestock is in good condition.

## CALIFORNIA

Irrigation started early because of the dry weather. There has been considerable fog on the southern coast; elsewhere there were high temperatures and clear skies, favorable for all crops except grain and grass which need rain. First cutting of alfalfa, grain and hay is being started in the interior valleys.

### Santa Rosa, Sonoma County

Feed and range conditions were above average (April 2) though March was a cold month with more north wind than usually occurs in this section. Feed conditions are decidedly better than a year ago. Sheep have wintered very well, better than in an average year. Much less supplemental feeding has been required and we have had all the feed we need. The number of lambs saved was about the same as last year or maybe a trifle more.

In this section of the country help is out of the question. You get along by yourself as best you can. Although I am not sure at the present time, I believe we can get sufficient shearers. We already have our burlap bags for this year's clip. We haven't had much trouble getting most materials but repair parts for cars, tractors and trucks are hard to get; fencing isn't so bad and lumber is all right such as it is.

Coyotes, which are definitely on the



On the summer range at Elk River, Idaho. G. E. Schiffner of Benge, Washington, whose sheep are shown in the picture, says that the white pines in the background are part of the largest belt of such trees in the world. March and April lambs come off this range in the fall weighing 90 to 95 pounds.

increase in this country and have been for some time, are the greatest problem facing us. We have had two or three trappers working lately.

Our net income is about the same as it has been in the past two years but the operating cost is on the increase.

Lee Crane, Jr.

## COLORADO

Moderate to heavy precipitation with temperatures averaging near normal. Winter grains stooling; spring grains showing. Livestock in fair to good condition. Ranges are adequate.

### Monte Vista, Rio Grande County

Spring is late this year (April 20), but recent snows should get the grass off to a good start. We have had sufficient feed and our flocks wintered well, requiring very little supplemental feeding. The spring losses were about normal but the number of lambs saved is better than last year's. The weather during lambing, however, was not too good. Help is very short and of a poor quality. About 50 per cent of the sheep in this section have been shorn.

I have not been on the range for several years and now have only a farm flock and my comments are restricted to them.

H. A. Mathias

## Waldon, Jackson County

No open ranges are used in this section in April. The weather has been cold and stormy, necessitating heavier feeding than usual. The flocks wintered well. We had sufficient feed although there were a few growers who ran short. Lambing does not start here until about May 15.

Up to the present time (April 19) labor has been a little more plentiful than before. Shearing begins about May 5. We have sufficient herders at this time and the predators are not bothersome.

We are having some trouble securing sugar and other food items for our herders.

Mallon & Vivion

## IDAHO

Field work active in southern valleys; too wet in higher elevations and most of the north. Pastures and lower ranges improving. The livestock is in good condition.

### Castleford, Twin Falls County

From the 1st to the 15th of April the weather was stormy and cold and we were short on feed. Since then up to date (April 25) the grass has been good with lots of moisture. There is considerable snow in the hills. The sheep wintered well and required about the same amount of supplemental feeding as they did last year. Lambing is over and



the yield was the same as last year. The weather during lambing was good and we had sufficient help. The sheep have all been shorn in this section of the country.

We signed up early on our wool as we had it on hand and wanted to ship it. We have sufficient herders now. The coyote situation is bad and the securing of ammunition is worse. I am very much in need of a pickup; a thing that is very essential in sheep raising.

Felix Celaya

## MONTANA

Cool and showery with light snow during the beginning of the week and the last three days. Thursday to Saturday it was mild and sunshiny, especially in the east. Grain seeding is underway, with some reseeding of winter wheat fields in the north and central sections. Alfalfa growth is slow, too cold. Soil moisture generally good. Lambing and calving progressing. Seasonal development somewhat retarded.

### Dell, Beaverhead County

April has been cold and the higher range is under snow (the 21st). Even though more supplemental feeding was required this year, we had a sufficient supply. The losses this spring were more than average and fewer lambs were saved because of unfavorable weather. We had just enough lambing help to get by. Shearing here will start about the 15th of June.

It is hard to get good herders. The predatory situation is still bad, although we can get ammunition more easily now. We are having some trouble due to the rationing, that is, in obtaining groceries and meat for the herders.

Martínell Brothers.

## NEVADA

Ideal for growth and farm activities; considerable progress made. Livestock conditions good; cattle gaining flesh rapidly. Lambing and shearing well under way.

### Battle Mountain, Lander County

For three weeks the weather was miserable and this is the first time we have seen the sun shine (April 20). The sheep did not winter very well. The ewes are in poor condition on account of the long winter and late spring; we have had heavy losses this spring and as a result the lamb crop is smaller than last year. Only a few sheep have been shorn as the shearing generally takes place after lambing.

Herders are few—the ones we have are old, tired men. Men are so scarce there aren't enough to go around. They

want very high wages which we have been forced to pay, and no sheepman can afford to pay such high wages for very long.

There are a good many coyotes in this section and they are doing a great deal of damage.

Unless something is done about securing labor and stabilizing wages, I think the stockmen here will have more than they can put up with.

Tony Herrera

## NEW MEXICO

Higher temperatures and normal precipitation latter half of the week very beneficial. Snow cover melting rapidly. More rain needed, especially in the south. Livestock and ranges continue to improve.

### Farmington, San Juan County

The flocks wintered well in this section and required about the same amount of supplemental feed as last year. Shearing will begin within the next two weeks. Shearers are getting 25 cents per head without board. We now have enough herders (April 27).

I would like very much to have a bounty of \$5 per head put on coyotes in all the western states. I have lost more sheep from coyotes in the past year than at any other time since I have been in the business. The San Juan Basin Wool Growers have assessed themselves 5 cents per head on their sheep to pay trappers. We have been doing this for seven years, but we seem to have more coyotes now than when we started. I feel that if all sheepmen in the western states were assessed 3 cents per sheep there would be enough money to pay this \$5 bounty.

O. J. Carson

## OREGON

Warmest week of the season, but colder near the close with severe freezing in elevated eastern localities. Light rains in the north and west; soil dry over much of the east and south, where irrigation has begun. Livestock generally good. Pastures improving, but some feeding continues.

### Condon, Gilliam County

This has been a cold and somewhat backward spring. The feed is not as good as it was last year or the year before. Sheep wintered well, however, and did not require any more supplemental feeding than last year. The weather during lambing was for the most part bad, and we did not save as many lambs as we did last year. There was not sufficient help and what we had

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MORE SHEEP  
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Oldest, most widely used brand. Available in black, red, green. Recommended and sold by leading wool associations. For sale also by dealers or direct from William Cooper & Nephews, Inc., 1921 Clifton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois  
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was very poor. Shearing will commence the early part of May.

We do not have enough herders. I believe the only answer to the help problem will be to import some kind of foreign labor. We simply cannot compete with the wages paid to American help by industry. I also hope to see the bounty system gain momentum throughout the West. There are more counties taking it up in this section all the time and results are already quite noticeable.

Guy L. Arbogast

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

Cloudy, cold, and dry. Fall grains are growing steadily with conditions good to excellent. Seeding of spring grains hindered by wet fields. Cold and unfavorable for growth. Grass is growing good. New born stock coming along nicely. Some scattered sheep shearing.

**Edson, Meade County**

The weather and feed conditions on the range have been much better this year than they were in 1944 and the sheep came through the winter in the best shape in years. Spring losses have also been very light and almost everyone is saving more lambs than last year (April 24). We had sufficient lambing help and at present have enough herders. Shearing will begin about June 10. Although it is getting easier to get ammunition, the predators are still bad.

Ray Cooper

**TEXAS**

Too much rain in the most of central section; generally adequate elsewhere, although more needed in portions of Panhandle and extreme south and southwest. Ranges and livestock continue to improve; condition of ranges good; livestock in good flesh.

**Rankin, Upton County**

The feed is shorter and somewhat drier than it has been in the past two years, but due to few showers and one rain of 1 1/4 inches it is greening up now (April 23).

The sheep wintered poorly, the poorest in five years. Twice as much supplemental feeding was required and losses were more serious than last year. This year we saved 52 per cent of the lambs as against 82 per cent last year and a 4-year average of 83 per cent. The weather during lambing was fairly good. We did not have sufficient help

but we made out. Shearing will start about May 20.

I have been in the ranch business for the last five years and have a few facts based on prices during that time:

	Cottonseed Cake	Corn	Labor (per day)	Lambs	Wool
1940	\$32.50	\$25.00	\$2.50	\$6.00	38½c
1943	50.00	45.00	3.50	5.00	46c
1945	67.50	60.00	6.00	5.80	43c

This will give you an idea of what the sheepmen in this section have to contend with. Prices will vary a little on lambs and wool but this is a good average for this section as a whole. Trucking has also gone up 125 per cent in these five years. What can be done, I do not know, but the whole setup is out of balance as far as ranchmen in western Texas are concerned. Everything we buy for the ranch in the way of supplies, lumber, medicine, upkeep, etc., has gone up from 40 to 300 per cent since 1941. What we sell has remained constant in the same period.

J. B. Ratliff

#### UTAH

Beneficial showers in west Saturday. Favorable for growth and farm work; considerable progress noted. Alfalfa showing considerable winter kill in north-central parts; condition good to excellent in other areas. Lambing and shearing progressing.

#### Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County

The first 18 days of April were the hardest we have ever experienced. Feed on the spring range is at least 2 weeks late. The sheep wintered well up to the first of April but have fallen off some since then. Some supplemental feeding was required during April. While not general in some cases there have been some serious spring losses. Shearing is well under way April. While not general, in some cases 20 cents with board and 22 cents without. The contract rate of 32 cents covers shearing, tying, sacking and grinding of machinery. About 50 per cent of the growers in this section signed their wool up early. The reason, I believe, was their willingness to patronize last year's satisfactory handlers. We have sufficient herders at the present time. The predator situation is disastrous on the higher ranges but not bad on the desert. Ammunition is still hard to get. However, we have managed to date to obtain all other materials essential to our operation.

A. H. Anderson

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## WASHINGTON

Soil moisture adequate. Winter wheat growing rapidly. Spring wheat coming up to good stands; some seeding still in progress. Pastures and meadows doing well, but late. Livestock in good condition.

### Selah, Yakima County

The feed has been slow coming up, even slower than in the past two years. However, I think the feed on the spring range will be good from now on (April 23). The sheep wintered fairly well in this region, with the usual amount of supplemental feeding. We did not have any serious spring losses. We had sufficient help during lambing but many growers were not as fortunate. About 50 per cent of the sheep in this section have been shorn (April 23). We have sufficient herders but no extra ones for replacement. The predatory situation seems to be getting worse and ammunition is not any easier to get.

The lamb crop in the Yakima Valley is about 10 per cent better than a year ago, while the wool clip is from 10 per cent to 30 per cent less. The expenses of operating just keep rising gradually. I don't see how the sheep industry can continue to exist unless we can get more for our wool and lambs.

James Fletcher

### Ephrata District, Grant County

Grass conditions on our spring range during April have been excellent. I recall but one year in the past ten when it was better.

Ewes and lambs are in fine condition (April 23). We have marked out and have alive on the range a lamb crop of 135 per cent of the ewes bred last fall, and the lambs carry more fat and will average better than any we have had for several years. Death loss of ewes during the winter and lambing was 1½ per cent. There were more dry ewes than average, amounting to about 6 per cent.

We were very fortunate in having one of the best lambing crews we ever had and have a good crew of men we can depend on for the mountain range.

Because of the excellent work of the government trappers who worked our range with traps and poison bait during the fall and winter, we had no loss due to the coyotes. The trappers are doing a wonderful job. "May their tribe increase!"

Winter expense for feed was high. The winter range was below average and our feed bill for hay and grain amounts to \$4 per head.

Shearing is finished. We do not have final weights on the wool but I believe it will run three-fourths pound per head lighter than in 1944. However, it is cleaner wool and should show a lighter shrinkage in grading.

The price of hay and grain is way out of line with what we are receiving for wool and lambs. I believe prices received by growers for wool are too low. Prices for lambs are as high as they should be but prices of hay and grain should be held in line. The grain growers are making big profits while the wool grower is lucky if he breaks even. Unless there is a change, sheep population will show another big reduction this year.

The Big Bend Land Company

## WYOMING

Cold weather at the beginning of the week with no precipitation of consequence. Farm work progressing favorably in north and east; mostly suspended in upper Big Horn Basin. Considerable loss of lambs in central section; shearing making good progress in southwest. Soil moisture mostly excellent.

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## Eden, Sweetwater County

Although April started out with cold drying winds, the weather and feed conditions are a little better than average (April 4). The sheep wintered well above the average and less supplemental feeding was required. Range lambing starts about May 10 in this section. The outlook toward obtaining shearers is fair and we already have our supply of burlap bags. We are having some trouble in getting enough rationed items such as sugar and bacon. There does not seem to be more predators here but they are more vicious. Wages are 20 per cent higher, other costs, the same as in the last two years. Operating costs run in direct proportion to the type of winter we have.

Frank C. Mayo

## CORRECTION

In the report of range conditions in New Mexico by Ivan Watson in the April Wool Grower (page 39), the price range on pellets was given as \$20 to \$30 a ton. The correct range, Mr. Watson informs us, is \$50 to \$60 a ton. The \$20 to \$30 referred to quotations on hay loose in the stack in some sections of New Mexico.

## Peace Plans

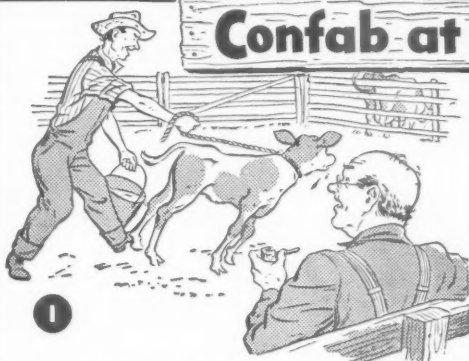
(Continued from page 10)

The Dumbarton Oaks Documents on International Organization are but an early stage of the evolution of the final plan. It may well be that some improvement in the language of the documents will be made by the Senate. Caustic remarks are often made as to the idea that the Senate is "the greatest deliberative body in the world." It is aggravatingly deliberate at times. But time is rarely so important as is the doing of a thorough job and a job done rightly though slowly, is better than hurried and imperfect action.

Since 500 B. C. statesmen have dreamed of an era of peace. Through debate and some trial and error some progress has been made. The greatest and the culminating step can now become a reality. All of us who see more of good than of bad in the final draft of the new plan may well be active to help determine whether "we shall nobly save or meanly lose the last best hope of earth."

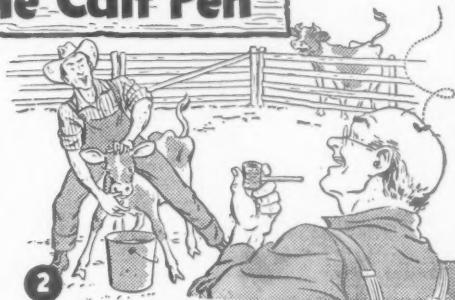
[Reprinted from the Pomona (Calif.) Progress Bulletin, April 4, 1945].

## Confab at the Calf Pen



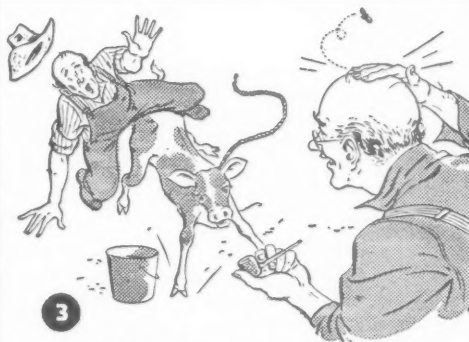
**1**  
**AMOS:** Give me a hand here, will you Bert? I've got to get this stubborn critter weaned.

**BERT:** Well now, Amos, I don't know! Seems to me the calf's just tryin' to do what you say is a good thing.



**2**  
**AMOS:** What in Thunder are you talking about, Bert?

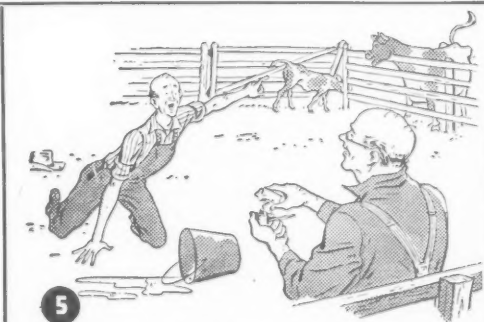
**BERT:** Why, direct distribution, of course. You're always pointin' out how producers and consumers are better off when there's no middleman wastin' time and money.



**3**  
**BERT:** Yessir, if I've heard you once, I've heard you a thousand times—"The Safeway food stores have the right system," you always say. "Farmers get more for what they produce, and consumers get more for their money under straightline distribution."



**4**  
**BERT:** I'm quotin' your very words, Amos. And that calf's heard you, too. You've educated her, and far as she's concerned, you're just a middleman.



**5**  
**AMOS:** Hey, head her off, you baldheaded old windbag!

**BERT:** Too late, Amos. She's goin' direct to the producer, just like a Safeway buyer. Trouble with you, Amos, you talk too much. Younger generation picks things up fast. You ought to be more close-mouthed, like me.

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